

IN THE MAGAZINE

A TARRANT TO AMUSE: **FROM CUSTARD KING** TO MILLIONAIRE'S CLUB



SHAKE A LEG: NOWT SO QUEER



BEST HEALTH

FERGAL KEANE • HOWARD JACOBSON • SIMON HOPKINSON • ANNA PAVORD • MAGNUS MILLS • E JANE DICKSON • URSULA BUCHAN

Jenkins accuses Blair of lacking courage over EMU

TONY BLAIR'S policy on Europe BY ANDREW GRICE was under renewed pressure last night as his close ally Lord Jenkins of Hillhead accused him of lacking the courage to persuade the British people to

join the single currency. As Germany compounded Mr Blair's problems by stepping up demands for a common icised the Government for "standing on the sidelines" this week as 11 countries launched

Political Editor

the euro, and saying "we will join later if it works".

Writing in The Independent today, Lord Jenkins likened this stance to countries such as Romania and Bulgaria "who in the two world wars have wait-EU tax policy, Lord Jenkins crit- ed to see which side was winning before deciding with whom to ally themselves". The former Chancellor and

European Commission president said Mr Blair's buge Commons majority should give him the "courage" to take the European issue head-on.

He described Mr Blair's failure to call a single currency referendum last summer a "missed opportunity" and insisted the Prime Minister would have won a substantial "yes" vote, enabling Britain to join the euro this week. Instead, 20 months into the



We always join in the end, but at the wrong

time and on worse terms' - Lord Jenkins on Europe Review, page 5

life of the most popular govadded: "We always join in the ernment in recent history. end, but at the wrong time and "practically no advance has on worse terms," been made towards creating Lord Jenkins dismissed as the positive majority". He "pathetic" attempts by Eurosceptics to turn the pound "into a national virility symbol" when it had fallen from a value of 12 to less than three

Deutschmarks in 40 years. His criticism will surprise Mr Blair, who regards the Liberal Democrat peer as a mentor. It came as Germany marked its first day in the EUs rotating presidency by warning that Britain's ability to decide its own levels of company taxes

Gunter Verheugen, the Germean the end of the Channel Isman Minister for Europe, insisted the aim was not single tax rates, but said "target zones" could be set for corporation tax. As with VAT, the EU would fix bottom and top limits on what member states could

relatively low rates. Mr Verheugen told BBC about a federal Europe." Radio 4's Today programme that harmonisation could also

levy, in a move which would put

pressure on Britain to raise its

lands' status as a tax haven. Other potential areas for coordination included consumer and energy taxes.

John Redwood, the Tory trade and industry spokesman. said: "The German minister has clearly stated that this single currency scheme is part of a much bigger package to bring

> Euro conversion, pages 12-13

Brown aide must go, say ministers

TONY BLAIR is under mounting BY ANDREW GRICE pressure from his Cabinet to order Gordon Brown to rebecause of allegations that he played a part in the downfall of post. Peter Mandelson.

Some senior ministers inon 14 January, if he is still in his current Treasury post by then.

Those understood to want Mr Whelan moved include Jack Straw the Home Secretary; Jack Cunningham, Mr Blair's cabinet "enforcer"; David Blunkett, the Secretary of State for Education and Employment; Frank Dobson (Health); Mo Mowlam (Northern Ireland), and Chris Smith (Culture).

But they face opposition from Mr Brown, who is reluctant to lose one of his closest aides, and John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister. Mr Prescott believes it would be wrong to oust Mr Whelan when there is no evidence he was involved in leaking details of Mr Mandelson's £373,000 personal loan from Geoffrey Robinson, the Paymaster-General, who resigned on the same day as the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry two days before

hannel

Their fight to save Mr Whelan will be an early test of the new alliance between Mr Prescott and Mr Brown, revealed in The Independent this week which is aimed at reasserting "traditional" Labour values after the departure of Mr Mandelson, a leading archi-

tect of New Labour. It is believed that Mr Blair has been convinced by close allies, including Alastair Campbell, his press secretary, that it will be impossible for the Gov-

move Chariie Whelan, his con- ernment to draw a line under troversial press secretary, the Mandelson affair if Mr Whelan remains in his present

One senior minister said yesterday: "A majority of the tend to demand that Mr Cabinet has made its mind up:

Another government source suggested the decision had already been taken in principle to remove him as the Chancellor's spin-doctor, but that he might be found another job. What is still under discus-



Whelan: Under pressure

sion is when he goes and where he goes," said the source.

Mr Whelan's critics admit there is no evidence he leaked details of the loan to the press. But they suspect he may have played a part in its inclusion in a biography of Mr Mandelson by Paul Routledge, a close friend of Mr Whelan, which will be serialised in The Mirror

Friends insist Mr Whelan has "done nothing wrong" and that there are no grounds whatsoever for him to be sacked. The fall-out from Mr Man-

delson's sudden resignation continued yesterday, as Blairite ministers expressed concern at Mr Prescott's decision to flex his political muscles by forming his partnership with Mr Brown and opposing closer links between Labour and the Liberal Democrats, "He's behaving like an excited kid who has just got Whelan be ousted when the Charlie must go. I don't see how the Christmas present he al-

son's head on a plate," said one

The Prime Minister was urged to reassert his authority over his Cabinet by Lord Shore of Stepney, the former Labour minister, who told BBC Radio: "If private ambitions and grudges and grievances and disappointments are allowed free rein, and if they are exploited by a number of anonymous PR men on behalf of their masters, that is a recipe

Asked if that was happening in Mr Blair's administration, he said: "I think there is a danger of that. It is something I'm quite sure, in his own best interests, the Prime Minister will want to deal with quite firmly."

The departure of Mr Mandelson, who was the Cabinet's strongest supporter of closer Lib-Lab co-operation, is also causing problems for Paddy Ashdown, His critics, who claim he is "cosying up" to Mr Blair, have reopened the Liberal Democrats' intense debate on relations with the Government.

Malcolm Bruce, Treasury spokesman, played down the agreement between Mr Blair and Mr Ashdown to extend the remit of a cabinet committee involving senior Liberal Democrats from constitutional reform to other issues. Mr Bruce said this was only a personal declaration of intent by



2,000 men and women went diving into the North Sea in a traditional start to the New Year at the Netherlands resort of Scheveningen EPA

Yemen hostages arrive home to diplomatic row

SURVIVORS of the Yemen By JOHN DAVISON hostage shoot-out came home last night for an emotional reunion with their relatives, three days after the ordeal in which they were used as human

shields by terrorist kidnappers. The 10 Britons and one Australian, who emerged uninjured from the bungled rescue attempt in which four others were killed, were due to arrive at Gatwick airport at 7.35pm. Officials were on hand to lead them around the normal immigration controls.

The group left the Yemeni capital of Sana'a yesterday morning for a flight to Paris on the first leg back. They were seen off by the British ambassador, Yemen's cultural minister, other political figures and members of human rights groups. Young girls in national costume presented the group with roses before their departure, while other local people held banners saying "We're Sorry. Claire Marston, the vide a full explanation.

British woman who was shot in the shoulder and hip after seeing her husband killed, re-

mained in hospital. A diplomatic row is threatening to erupt, after it emerged that one of the survivors had been asked to change his statement about the shootings by a Yemeni secret police colonel. Yemen's ambassador to London has been summoned to the Foreign Office to be told of Britain's "dissatisfaction" at his government's failure to pro-

twice as much TO CALL A MOBILE PHONE? Dr Ingraham used previous Even though BT are being pressured to reduce

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Rubber ducks jump ship and head for America

ahead with a little early Christmas shopping could do well to head down to the beach, as millions of toys are expected to wash up on the west coast.

Rubber ducks and other plastic toys, Christmas lights and artificial trees are among the cargo washed overboard in

a massive storm last October:

AMERICANS LOOKING to get BY STEVE CONNOR Science Editor

> Scientists have estimated it will take about 10 more months for the contents of hundreds of containers to reach land.

> Tropical storm Babs descended on one of the world's largest container ships, the 906ft APL China, which was

bound for Seattle, carrying a consignment of Christmas goods in 366 containers. Barometric pressure dropped so rapidly that the storm developed into a "meteorological bomb", driving 100mph winds and 60ff waves and ripping the containers from the ship's deck. Two more ships, carrying

consumer goods from China to

Los Angeles, were caught in the container held are subject to time for beachcombers to see storm. Together they lost a further 45 containers. "Fortunately no one was hurt

but Babs destroyed an enormous number of containers, the biggest loss in one incident." said Curtis Ebbesmeyer of the **US National Marine Fisheries** Service in Seattle.

legal wrangling over insurance claims, but it is believed they include 15,000 trainers and an assortment of plastic toys.

with the US fisheries service who has developed a computer model of Pacific Ocean cur-

spills to refine his model of ocean currents. One of the Jim Ingraham, a scientist most informative was a spill of 29,000 bath toys, including yellow ducks and blue turtles. which were lost in 1992 and took rents, estimates that October or 11 months to travel from the November is the most likely mid-Pacific to North America.

Precise details of what each

Christmas in Cape Town Comment P3 Lord Jenkins

Mormons in the Fens How missionaries have brought Salt Lake City to East Anglia

Sex and shopping Why both are likely to be as frustrating as blissful Features P6

Features P6

Anna Pavord The exotic triumph of zinnias, outrageous and over the top **Gardening P11**

London bouse prices Where is the market headed this year?

TODAY'S TELEVISION

the first toys wash ashore.

INSIDE THIS SECTION Another climber dies A climber has died only miles from where four perished earlier this week Home P2

Home P3

Honduras revisited **Battered** communites are rebuilding their lives

A cardinal sin Hume says we should not be obliged to work on days of rest

Paparazzi penalty Hollywood celebrities given greater privacy News P11

American players Bell Atlantic has bid \$45bn for AirTouch Business P17

A little spooky Ex-England manager Graham Taylor is haunted by the 'tatooed man' Sport P26

INSIDE THE REVIEW

Fergal Keane The pleasures and occasional pains of

Europe and our 40 years of wasted opportunity Comment P5

Property P13

🥦 IN TOMORROW'S INDEPENDENT ON SUNDAY

'The dead days between Christmas and New Year brought disaster for Jemima. She has a certain showy style but no obvious evidence of income, and I have always thought her our local Miss Whip, her clientele perhaps a cut above the readers of intriguing cards in telephone boxes.' Brian Sewell's diary

THE BEST-WRITTEN SUNDAY PAPER IN BRITAIN, FEATURING RUTH PADEL, JEREMY CLARKE, ANITA BROOKNER, PETER YORK, JOAN SMITH, WILL SELF, JOHN GRIGG, GILBERT ADAIR, DEAR ANNIE, MICHAEL BYWATER, DAVID THOMSON AND CAPTAIN MOONLIGHT

Climber dies in 1,500ft fall on Scots peak

cotland Correspondent

A CLIMBER tumbled 1,500ft to his death in the Highlands only a few miles from the place where four people perished in an avalanche this week.

Paul Fooks, 38, from Nottingham, was with friends on Sgurr a' Mhaim, opposite Ben Nevis, when he apparently slipped on steep ground. He was not wearing crampons.

The accident happened at about 5pm on Thursday as the weather was deteriorating in the western Highlands after a

The alarm was raised by two other climbers in the party and rescuers, aided by a heli-



A police spokesman said: "It seems as if Mr Fooks lost his grip and slid down the hill." Sgurr a' Mhaim is a popular

winter excursion. There are tricky sections along its summit ridge where the Scottish Mountaineering Club guide for the area suggests "inexperienced

lower down the mountain in an normally be used

Terry Confield, leader of the Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team, said Mr Fooks was descending a 45 degree slope of snow patches, frozen turf and rocks in Glen Nevis when he slipped. "This guy was not wearing his crampons. They were in his sack," he said.

Climbers often take off their crampons on mixed terrain where the spikes scrape on rocks and slow progress. But they make crossing icy ground

"The message is that where there's any patches of hard snow or frozen ground, keep your crampons on," Mr Confield



The Nevis range, where Paul Fooks died, and (right) avalanche survivors Sarah Finch and Stephen Newton yesterday

many as 80.

faster but at least they keep you a real shock."

seems to have had plenty of exrience in the hills. Margaret Fountain, a neighbour, said: We knew he used to go climbing because you would see him

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RAIN OR

SHINE...

A VIOLENT New Year weather system caused the deaths of

four people in Seville, in Spain after a bus shelter collapsed on

top of them. Winds gusting at

up to 50mph sent chunks of

wall tumbling from a disused

The debris crushed the

shelter, killing four people and

injuring at least one. Else-

where in Seville and the sur-

rounding province, the storm

knocked down trees and

triggered electrical blackouts.

building, police said.

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Golgufetty wild book now

said. "They may wear out a bit a rucksack on his back. This is

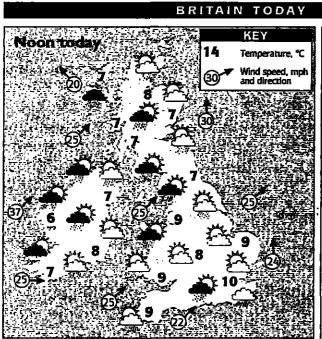
Lochaber Mountain Rescue Team, the same group of volunteers that rushed to the aid of the avalanche victims, has now had to bring down five bodies in three days. In an "averAs climbing and hillwalking become more popular, the callouts of one of Scotland's busiest teams increase accordingly. Mr terday after treatment for Confield said that 30 years ago sprains and mild hypothermia. the team got about half a dozen The third survivor the party's guide, Roger Wild, left hospital call-outs a year, now it gets as

Friends who were on holiday Two of the survivors of the with the avalanche victims, all avalanche on Aonach Mor.

on Thursday.

Sarah Finch, 25, and her boyfriend Steven Newton, left hospital in Fort William yesstill in "a state of shock and disbelief" after the tragedy. The

> dead climbers were among a group of 15 on a New Year activity holiday. In a statement, the simply "ended up in the wron;



E Angila, Midlands, Cent N & NE England: A wet and windy start, but soon becoming mostly dry with sunny spells and isolated passing showers. The strong southerly wind will turn south-westerly and ease. Max temp 7-9C (45-48F). Channel Is, SW & MW England, Wales, Lake Dist, Isle of Man: Windy with sunny incervals and showers, some heavy with a chance of thunder. A strong south-westerly wind. Max temp 7-9C (45-48F).

N Ireland: A windy day with sunny spells and showers. The heaviest and most frequent showers will be in the west with the best of the sun in the east. A strong south-westerly wind. Max temp 5-8C (41-46F). Glasgow, SW & NW Scotland, W Isles: Windy with showers and some longe spells of wet weather. A strong and gusty wind. Max temp 6-8C (43-46F).

SE & NE Scotland, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, N Isles: A windy day but early rain will clear this morning to leave sunshine and the odd passing shower. A strong south to south-easterly wind. Max temp 6-8C (43-46F).

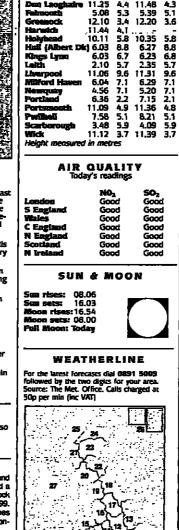
Tomorrow will be another rather windy and showery day, aithough there will also be some sunny breaks. The first half of next week will be unsettled and often windy with rain at times, but it will be very mild in most places.

London: A12 Green Man Roundabout, Leytonstone. Major roadworks on new M11 ink road. Until 31st December 1999. Cambridgeethire A10 between Foxton and M11. Resurfacing and bridge mainte-nance work at Shepreth Mill, Until 14th

nance work at Shepreth Mar. Urter 1987 February Burkinghamshire: M40 between junctions 1a (M25) & 3 (Wycombe East). Three nar-row tares both ways and a 50 mph speed limit in force. Until 1st January. Bristol: M5 J18-19. Major Floadworks on Avonmouthabiline: A449 between Usk A472 and M4 J24. Roedworks. Until 11th January.

Lanceshire: M6 Between J27 Standish and J28 Leyland. Roadworks; contraflow and a 50mph speed limit either side of Champok Pitchard Services, Until 15th February 1999. Greater Manchester: A57. Narrow lares Manchester-bound, due to Metrolink construction work. Until 28th February. Dumbles and California A4, between Dumfries and Galloursy: A74 between Beettock and J16 Annandele. Major roadworks, until 31st January.

AA Roadwatch: Call 0336 401777 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association, Calls charged at 50p per min (inc VAT).



THE ATLANTIC NOON TODAY

THE WORLD YESTERDAY

Drivers could lose lorries in refugee action

TOUGH ACTION against lorry BY GARY FINN firms to crack down on illegal immigration was announced today by the Government, which could see drivers lose their lorries if they are caught carrying refugees.

The measures were consnook at the New Year message of the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr George Carey, which called for greater tolerance towards

refugees and immigrants. The Home Office immigration minister Mike O'Brien said lorries could be impounded. Vehicles would not be released until the driver or owner paid, or proved they could pay within a reasonable time, the £2,000 fine the Government plans to impose on them for each illegal

immigrant they carry. Ma O'Brien said: "An estimated 8.000 illegal immigrants have come into the country in the back of lorries during the year. It must stop. We asked drivers demned by the road haulage in- to check leads and they have dustry and appeared to cock a not all done so. This is why we need a tough new regime to clamp down on irresponsible hauliers.'

A spokesman for the Road Haulage Association said: "At precisely the time the Government has dropped legislation targeting cowboy hauliers and the dangerous 'death trucks' they operate, because of lack of Parliamentary time, they are prepared to target innocent hauliers innocently bringing stowaways into the country."

Police search for abducted woman

FEARS WERE mounting last By SARAH WILSON night that a Bath woman missing since last Wednesday has been abducted and attacked by her estranged husband.

Police were looking for a black BMW that was driven off from Bath centre with Katey Caven, 38, trapped in the back.

Avon and Somerset detectives said two passers-by dialled 999 after Mrs Caven shouted to them to call police before she was forced into the car and driven off on Wednesday.

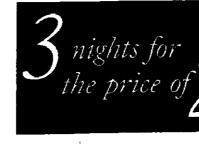
and said she had been abducted by her estranged husband. Milton Caven, 39, before the

phone was slammed down. Police were anxious to trace Mrs Caven and her husband. Mr Caven is black, 6ft, with dreadlocks. Mrs Caven, of mixed race, is slim, 5ft 7in, with short burgundy-coloured hair and brown eyes. She was wearing a brown leather coat with a white fur col-About four hours later Mrs lar and a grey jogging suit.



Heritage

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Bath, Avon, The Bath Spa

Bath, Avon The Francis

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Saturday 2 January 1999

Honduras revisited: Two months ago Central America was torn apart by Hurricane Mitch. Phil Davison, whose reports on the tragedy prompted readers to contribute £300,000, returns to find battered communities struggling to rebuild their lives

Hope amid the mud and rubble

MELISSA MORTIMER wanted to spend Christmas with her sister Kate in Wantage, near Oxford. Kate was expecting a baby on Christmas Day. Instead. Melissa, a 22-year-old with dual British and US nationality, was helping to rebuild Honduras from the devastation of Hurricane Mitch.

Despite her age, Melissa, born in Cheltenham but now a resident of New York state, was in charge of a team of 26 US marines and American navy "Sea Bees" – engineers – building a makeshift bridge alongside one destroyed by Mitch's floods.

A "Sea Bee" herself (the term comes from CB, or Construction Battalion) and wearing combat fatigues and a white hard hat with the emblem "safety is my responsibility", she helped to toss rocks on to wire mesh and concrete culverts to ensure the bridge was in place by Christmas.

That helped to restore Honduras's vital highway 15 between the capital, Tegucigalpa, and the north of the country, allowing many Hondurans to make Christmas and New Year visits to relatives they had not seen since the hurricane. It will also help Hondurans to take the vital coffee crop – now their biggest export – to market.

Christmas Day offered a decent meal at Soto Cano (a US air force base near the capital), but then it was back to bridge building, ensign Mortimer told me as she nibbled from an MRE, or "meal-ready-to-eat". These are the US military rations she and her team live on out here in the wilds, in a military tent she shares with two fellow women engineers.

American troops also began deploying "anti-mine" dogs last week to sniff out up to 70,000 landmines left over from Central American wars but now feared to have drifted loose during Mitch's floods. The Americans had to overcome an initial problem. The dogs had been trained in Holland and at first reacted only to commands in Dutch.

After an initial slow response from the world, aid and assistance have poured into Honduras, Nicaragua and the rest of Central America since Mitch dumped five days of rain on the isthmus in late October and early November. The US has provided several hundred million dollars in aid, as well as the navy bridge builders, helicopter pilots, marines and army troops.

British Royal Marines and navy personnel have gone but British civil engineers will be involved in reconstruction work after surveys by the Department for International Development (DFID). Private British







groups such as Christian Aid

have kept working.

With DFID and the British Red Cross, Christian Aid has sent three cargo ships of rice, beans, salt, blankets and canned foods to Honduras and two more ships are due. Ironically, the ships were banana boats this time bringing food rather than exporting Honduras's most famous fruit.

Even the Falkland Islanders have chipped in for a water project on the island of Guanaja, off Honduras's northern coast, where the hurricane first hit.

In short, Honduras, Nicara-

as Christian Aid gua and the rest of Central America have not been forgotten. Except, many residents bristian Aid has complain by their own gov.

ernments.

Foreigners are building roads and bridges and bringing food. But not everyone is seeing the food and many still need shelter. There were an estimated 500,000 people homeless in Honduras over Christmas, some sleeping on church floors, others in barracks, many in the open on the sites where there homes were

swept away.

The latest outcry has come

from the country's middle class, who complain that they are still paying mortgages on destroyed homes while having to live in cheap hotels or with relatives.

with the government overwhelmed by the tragedy, much
of the aid effort is being carried
ill out by private individuals or
companies. A case in point:
the local manager of the DHL
courier company, Guatemalan
on Oscar Caceres, is using his
aircraft to ferry food and other
supplies to storm victims.

More than 100 000 children

More than 100,000 children will have to attend school in tents next month because their

schools were destroyed, flood-tiump suits and wearing mass

schools were destroyed, flooded or will still be used as shelters. This year's school term was suspended because of a lack of surviving classrooms.

Psychologists say thousands of children and adults alike are suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and need psychological help. "Adult victims need to get back to work. Children need to get back to school," said Nuvia Maradiaga, a psychologist.

There was an eerie atmosphere in central Tegucigalpa this week as Ministry of Public Health workers, dressed in

jump suits and wearing masks and rubber boots, wandered the streets furnigating against rats. At least four people have died from leptospirosis, usually spread by rats, and there are a

further 85 cases nationally as stagnant flood-water covering animal and human corpses remains uncleared. "It's not quite an epidemic, but it's worrying," said the Public Health minister, Marco Antonio Rosa. The stench of death has lift-

ed from Tegucigalpa but has been replaced by an all-pervasive dust from dried mud, infected by human faeces

and the contract of the contra

clean-up and rebuilding begin (left and far left)
because of the lack of sanitary groups of youths roa

Lives in ruins (top) and a glimmer of hope as the

facilities, that burns the eyes, causes respiratory problems and leaves a bitter taste on the tongue. Ice cream vendors sell their wares within yards of the muddy lake in central Tegucigalpa caused by the floods. To clear the lake, still believed to hide many corpses, the authorities would have to blow a hole in an accidental dike ~ caused by a landslide - that still blocks the Choluteca river. They are afraid to do so for fear the surge would wash away more riverside homes.

In surrealistic scenes at the weekend, citizens lit candles, placed them on floating ashtray-like dishes with notes carrying the names of loved ones and pushed them down the river in a ritual they believed would lead them to missing relatives.

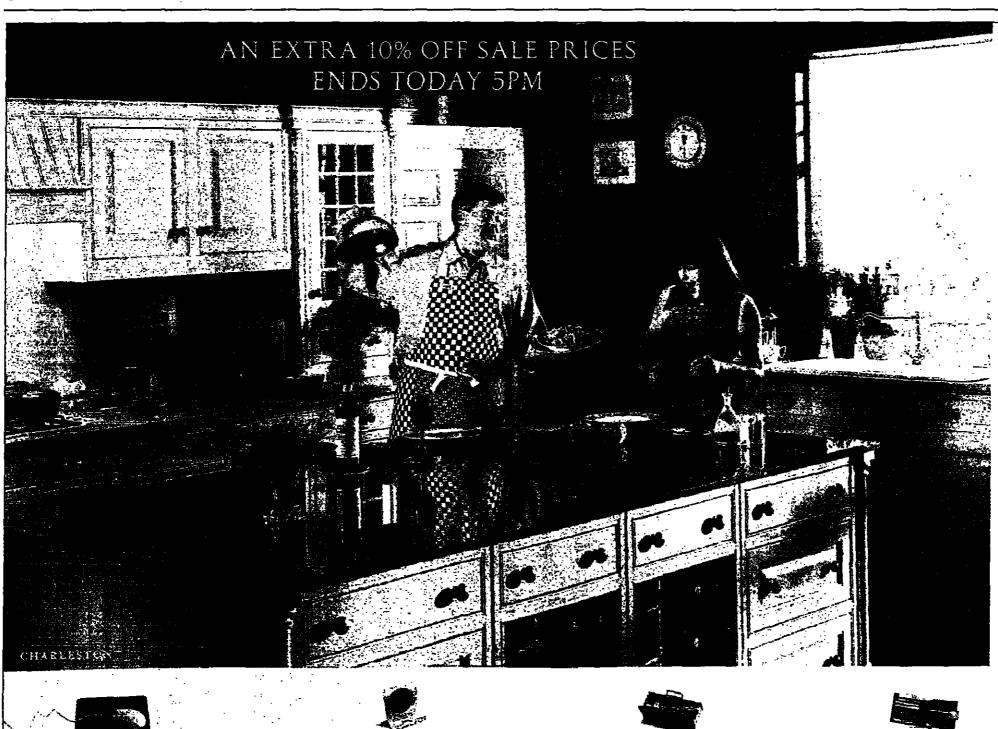
While the Honduran government recently downgraded its death toll from 7,000 to 6,000, up to 11,000 may still be missing. Most were unregistered poor families living in riverside shanty towns.

As Christmas approached, crime returned to the streets. With an initial post-Mitch overnight curfew now lifted, groups of youths roam the streets at night, robbing and sometimes raping. Armed guards stand outside every store or fast-food restaurant.

The need to feed children has also led to a rise in prostitution. In the little town of Bethlehem, actually a seedy suburb of Tegucigalpa, the new mayor, Vilma de Castellanos – widow of Cesar "Fatty" Castellanos, the mayor who died in a helicopter crash after the hurricane – pledged to close down Bethlehem's dozens of bordellos.

in a stunning contrast to the squalor and poverty of downtown Tegucigalpa and stricken rural villages, a glitzy new mall opened up before Christmas with marble floors, designer stores, dazzling decorations and a 75ft Christmas tree. In the mall's Osh Kosh children's shop, a baby suit cost more than £20, the weekly wage in better times.

"This is an insult." said Gustavo Flores, a street vendor who lost his riverside home in the hurricane and was wandering around the mall to keep warm. "The ricachos [the very rich] just seem to get richer the worse things get for us."



nt Sat 2nd Jan Sam-Spen (England and Wales) Plam-Spen (Scothard), Sun 3rd Ian Pârn-Spen, Mon 4th Jan Parn-Spen (corntal bours). Check each branch for details



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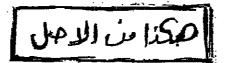
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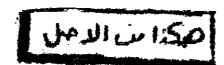
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Witnesses against police 'threatened'

AN INQUIRY into allegations of By JASON BENNETTO police corruption and malpractice within the force that piloted "zero tolerance" has discovered attempts to intimidate witnesses due to give evidence against officers.

Supporters of the detectives under investigation, who include Detective Superintendent Ray Mallon, dubbed "Robocop" for his tough stance on lawlessness, are understood to have threatened police officers and members of the public pre-

pared to testify in the inquiry. Forty-six police officers are facing a variety of allegations involving corruption and malof offering drugs for information.

The officers, most of whom are from Middlesbrough CID, face 397 complaints, including more than 240 allegations of criminal wrong-doing. Eight officers are currently suspended.

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Crime Correspondent

head of Middlesbrough CID. There is no suggestion that the accused officers have been involved in witness intimidation.

The police inquiry, known as Operation Lancet, which is being headed by Andrew Timpson, the Chief Constable of Warwickshire, is understood to have uncovered evidence of witness

Police officers who have been prepared to testify to the inquiry are understood to have complained of being told they face a backlash by their colleagues

Members of the public have also claimed they have been approached by serving police officers who have tried to imidate them into withdrawing their co-operation. Among the tactics allegedly being used including Mr Mallon, the former are police officers visiting wit-

nesses' homes in an attempt to suggest they are informers and thereby risk the wrath of local

A source said that there have been attempts to "turn witnesses" and intimidate them into withdrawing their evidence. A spokesman for the Police

Complaints Authority, which is overseeing the investigation, would not discuss details, but he did concede: "There is evidence of attempts to undermine the

Operation Lancet is one of the biggest police corruption inquiries yet seen and has been running for more than a year. The Crown Prosecution Ser-

vice is understood to have received files from the inquiry team relating to allegations of CID officers supplying heroin in return for information from informers. There were also allegations that officers had threatened and beaten suspects

or potential informers to obtain information. Middlesbrough CID was in the forefront of adopting the US-style tactic of zero tolerance in which all offences, however minor, were

The CPS will now decide whether charges should be brought against any officers.

The inquiry is also looking to allegations that Mr Mallon passed information to the press and "alleged activity which could be construed as criminal".

In November Mr Mallon received an official warning after a second inquiry into whether he had been fiddling his expenses. He was cleared of making illegal claims. His supporters believe the second investigation was a witch hunt by officers desperate to convict him.

Last month Mr Mallon said: I have acted bonourably in the interests of the police and the public and I have acted legally."



Detective superintendent Ray Mallon, dubbed 'Robocop', is one of 46 police officers facing allegations

Churchmen attack work on holidays

By ANDREW GRICE Political Editor

TWO CHURCH leaders will warm tomorrow that family life in Britain is under threat because flexible working arrangements are designed to suit companies

Cardinal Basil Hume, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales, will say that traders in the City of London should have refused to work this weekend to smooth the introduction of the single currency, and that shop staff should have rebelled when asked to work on Christmas and

Boxing Day. Interviewed on GMTV's Sunday Programme, Cardinal Hume calls on people to protest because the financial arrange-

ments of the world require it". He suggests that a mass refusal to work over the Christmas holiday would force employers to think again. "I don't ever think we are driven by forces which we can't control," he says. "And the will must not be to make more money. The will's got to be that we want a better

society. Cardinal Hume expresses concern that children of two working parents sometimes have no contact with them from early morning until late at night. "The flexible hours are often to suit the firm or the industry but do not necessarily suit what is important or possible for the family," he says.

He urges the Government to change the tax system to favour the family and ensure that working practices are more familyfriendly.

His calls are supported in the same programme by the Right Rev James Jones, who was appointed Bishop of Liverpool last year after the Prime Minister. Tony Blair, vetoed two other proposed candidates.

Bishop Jones urges the Government to reform a tax system



Cardinal Hume: Calls for shop staff to rebel

which, he says, penalises families. "It seems to me that it's a matter of justice that a salary that feeds one or two differently from a salary that feeds four or five people, so serious attention has got to be given to the taxation system,"

He calls for tax allowances to be transferable between parents if one of them decides to stay at home to look after a child, reducing their overall tax burden Such a system is backed by the Tories but Labour is not convinced of its merits.

Urging employers to take more account of the family, Bishop Jones says: "I think the way some people are made to work is very destructive of family life and people who lead companies ought to be more responsible."

He also says that politicians should not expect to keep their private lives out of the public's gaze, arguing that voters "do have a right to scrutinise politicians so that they can be assured that they are trust-

worthy". If politicians want to divorce private life from public office, they are saying "do what we say, but ignore what we do", Bishop Jones says. "I do not think you can drive a wedge between the

Reduced for January.



IN BRIEF

Ashdown warned on Labour links

THE LIBERAL DEMOCRAT leader, Paddy Ashdown, faced renewed warnings yesterday that he could not expect to extend co-operation with Labour without his party's agreement. Malcolm Bruce, his Treasury spokesman, told Radio 4's The World at One there were "fundamental differences" on economic policy and co-operation would not increase "entirely on Paddy Ashdown's say-so".

'Loony dookers' brave big chill

ABOUT 60 hardy swimmers plunged into the waters of the Firth of Forth in South Queensferry's annual "loony dook" yesterday. The New Year's Day dip - with the water temperature at 2C - raised about £3,000 for the elderly. The swimmers splashed around for 10 minutes while an inshore lifeboat stood by.

Workers unpack 10in spider

STAFF AT Sheffield's wholesale market unpacked a consignment of South American figs and nuts and found a spider with a 10in leg span. The goliath bird eater kills birds and snakes and is poisonous, but not fatal, for humans. It was taken to a wildlife centre where it has been nicknamed Hairy Harry and is being fed pig hearts.

Parade hits the million mark

A RECORD 1.2 million people took to the streets for London's New Year's Day parade. More than 10,000 performers joined the 13th annual event through the West End. which boasted floats from 12 boroughs and 6,500 cheerleaders and bandsmen from America.

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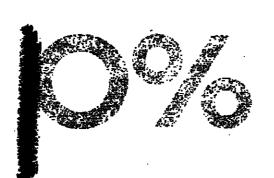
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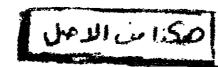


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French get tough with ski hooligans

JULIET RUISSEN had just By DARIUS SANAI stopped at the edge of the piste to catch her breath and admire the view with her friend. As she rage. "What should you have stood on the Plein Sud ski run, done with the boy in the green on a ledge above the resort of Vai Thorens, a teenage boy in a have followed him, safely, to the green jacket was hurtling out of bottom of the mountain and recontrol on the icy slope above. Swerving to avoid a ski school class, he hit a patch of ice, skidded as he tried to turn, hit the 23-year-old Dutch woman and her colleague full on and knocked them over in a haze of

ski tips and flying powder. As her family crowded round Ms Ruissen, the French teenager came over to apologise. They shooed him away and tended to Miss Ruissen's broken nose, which was bleeding heavily. The boy was away into the multicoloured crowd, shooting down the mountainside in the winter

sunshine. Skiing, that most genteel of pastimes, is experiencing an upsurge of hooliganism in common with many other sports. It know that if they endanger was always unrealistic to expect tens of thousands of people, hell-bent on pleasure, to converge on one corner of a mountain with planks or boards tied to their feet, without some sort of nastiness ensuing.

most prestigious resorts in France have drafted in new policing powers that bring the full force of the law on to the

Rene Ternoy looked the sort century Texas.

the resorts of Tignes, Val d'Isère and Meribel, he is one of the most important men be- Ménuires is one of the most unhind the clampdown on ski likely places on earth to require

in Les Ménuires

jacket?" he asks. "You should ported him to the authorities.

"If you have sufficient witness reports I would prosecute him for endangerment. People like this must be prosecuted."

Under the new by-laws in operation at some resorts, anyone causing an accident may receive a fine of up to 100,000 francs (£11,000) and a year's jail sentence - or at the very least a standard issue 250 franc fine for a skiing "traffic offence".

At the beginning of the season, Mr Ternoy wrote to the mayors of all the main ski resorts within his jurisdiction. urging a clampdown on reckless skiers and snowboarders. "Those on the slopes have to each other's lives, they will have the force of the law on

Given that almost 200,000 skiers were yesterday on the mountainsides that he patrols, and that some mayors have But this season, some of the already decided to send out patrols of uniformed gendarmes, it is a threat any holidaymaker should take seriously.

Speeding skiers are not the only targets of the safety campaign. Georges Cumin, the of man who would have been a mayor of St Martin, whose jusuccessful sheriff in 19th- risdiction covers Les Ménuires and Vai Thorens, tells me angrily A public prosecutor in Al- of "drunken idiots who spill out bertville, site of the 1992 Winter of nightclubs" and go sledding Olympics and nearest town to on the giant orange airbags tied to ski lift pylons.

On the face of it, Les



Ski rage has become such a problem that the mayors of some French resorts are putting gendarmes on the pistes to stamp out the antics of wilder enthusiasts

new policing and by-laws. It is one suspects would earn their week. "People ski beyond their the slopes. In true Gallic philo- prepare for highway patrol-style one of France's more upmarket resorts, and most of the residents seem preoccupied with trying to slide down the mountain without damaging their Chanel sunglasses.

But this week is the most crowded of the season, Middleaged businessmen were hurtling down the slopes, which were as packed as a high street on a sales Saturday, in a way

children a severe ticking off. I had the sunglasses knocked off my face by the flying hand of a cool-looking young woman, perhaps a lawyer or a banker who would never come close to inflicting injury on any-

body in real life. Campucine Gibeault, a bank clerk on holiday with her boyfriend, said she had seen a collision almost every day last ponent of stricter policing on

ability, it's dangerous," she said. Did she know the local prosecutor would encourage her to grass on dangerous skiers? "How would we catch them?" she shrugged.

The truth is that it is not just skiers and snowboarders who are becoming more badly behaved Jean-Lou Costerg, piste manager at Val d'Isère, is an opsophical style, his conclusion probably an accurate one - is that the problem is wider. "It starts in the home, in school, with society as a whole. We

will always be getting greater." Although no one has suggested that flooding the slopes with gendarmes could be a sohution, Mr Cumin says we should

there, otherwise the danger

speed traps on the pistes. The airbag hooligans are another problem. In L'Oisans

bar at Les Ménuires, three Parisian students admit they need to address the problem are planning to liberate a giant mattress and hurtle down the mountainside that night, after several dozen vodkas. They did it last year at Tignes, they said. "C'est formidable," said Jean-

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the possibility of a jail sentence? "How will they find us afterwards?" said Benoit. pointing at the mountain and the crowd milling around the central square.

Skiing, the connoisseurs will tell you, will never be taken over by hooligans because it is a sport for the monied classes. But with monied classes like these, who needs hooligans?

Harefield Hospital ' to be shut

BY PAUL WAUGH AND JEREMY LAURANCE

HAREFIELD HOSPITAL, home of Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub's world-renowned heart transplant team on the outskirts of north-west London, is to close.

The pioneering hospital, housed in a collection of outdated buildings in Hillingdon close to the M25, looks certain to be moved as part of wider government plans to build a £200m super-hospital on derelict land in central London.

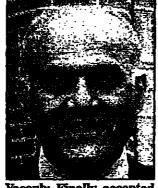
Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, is expected to approve the closure of Harefield to make way for a specialist heart hospital next to St Mary's Hospital in Paddington.

The Royal Brompton Hospital in Chelsea, which was merged with Harefield to form a single NHS trust specialising in heart surgery last year, would also be closed and some of its staff and services transferred to the new unit in Paddington Basin.

Several options for the future of Harefield have been considered by clinicians and health authority chiefs, but senior government sources have now indicated that the Paddington alternative is the most likely to win approval. "We want a Harefield for the 21st century, a world-beater," the source said.

A key factor in the decision has been the reluctant admission by Professor Yacoub that his long campaign to keep the Harefield on its site in Hillingdon cannot be sustained. The surgeon was keen to ensure that the team of experts he had built up over the past 20 years would not be disbanded and lobbied Mr Dobson as recently as November He is believed to have received assurances that the team would be preserved in the new hospital.

national centre for heart trans- patients.



Yacoub: Finally accepted the hospital must close

plant surgery since the early 1980s, and for years it was performing more of the operations than any other centre in the world. But in the 1990s, as other hospitals have developed expertise, the number of transplants performed at Harefield has declined from 200-plus a year to between 85 and 90. Pressure to transfer the

paediatric work from Harefield to a larger specialist centre has grown since the Bristol heart disaster, which pinpointed the need for dedicated paediatric surgeons to operate on children. At Bristol, three doctors, including two adult surgeons, were found guilty of serious professional misconduct after 29 out of 53 babies died.

Visitors to the Hillingdon hospital built in the Thirties, are astonished that world-class surgical research can have been accomplished in such a dowdy setting. When Mr Yacoub began the heart transplant programme in 1980, the hospital was thrown into disarray because the programme demanded more resources than it could afford. His formidable presence and evident skill ensured the programme survived and prospered, though critics said it was at the expense Harefield has been an inter- of work of equal importance to

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After the big party, the big clean-up

PARTY HATS, cans, broken By STEPHEN GOODWIN glass and plastic bottles by the thousand were swept from the streets of Edinburgh yesterday after the biggest New Year party in the world passed off without serious incident.

thronged Princes Street and the city centre to watch a spectacular fireworks display over the castle and listen to bands, including UB40 and Mansun.

First-aid posts coped with there were only 12 arrests, for

Scotland Correspondent AND KATE WATSON-SMYTH

minor breaches of the peace, and no serious casualties. City Some 200,000 reveilers people, way down on the 350 casualties seen three years ago, before the party became a ticket-only event to prevent overcrowding.

The success of the occasion was a great relief to the city scores of incapable drunks but council, which is planning a seven-day celebration for the

ives it road handling and cornering like no

positioned within 30° field of vision and a full

range of extras maximise driver comfort.

other in its class. All instrumentation is carefully

Finance

turn of the millennium. Hog-

£30m into Edinburgh's econ-

orny, with up to 100,000 visitors

drawn to the city and every hotel

bed booked for miles around.

manay is estimated to bring



some drinks lose their fizz if de-

canted into a plastic container

hence the empty champagne

bottles abandoned in doorways.

Police, street cleaners and

Four tons of fireworks went began a massive street clean- bottles into the cordon but

expect to pick up 35 tons of cans.

glass, plastic and sundry items

of clothing. Revellers were

off in four minutes after the ing operation. In 40 hours they

At 2.30am, council workers ordered not to bring glass

midnight bells while 650 police

officers and 550 stewards

manned a city centre cordon.

planning of the next one. In London, British Transport Police used the evening to count how many people used the Tube, how long crowds took to disperse and where traffic

celebration will help with the

was most congested. "Last night was seen through the eyes of next year, with a view to working out how we will do it then," a spokesman said. "It is all part of a very long planning process which has already been going on for some

Some 90,000 London revellers ignored police pleas to stay away and crammed into Trafalgar Square to hear the chimes of Big Ben signal the West End.

A total of 44 arrests were made and five people needed hospital treatment for minor inpeople had been well behaved. A spokesman for Scotland

Yard, which put 1,500 officers on duty, said it had been a successful operation. "Obviously we will look at mouth, Dorset. how things went this year to

help us plan next year's operation but we are expecting it to be extremely busy," he said. "At the moment no one is al-

lowed to take any annual leave over the New Year period and it is possible that we could have a total of 26,800 officers on duty, but that will not be decided

In Birmingham, about 40,000 people packed into Centenary tax riot."

Britain will be hoping that the and police said the total of 16 lessons learnt from this year's arrests was fewer than on a normal weekend evening in

The celebrations were marred by ugly incidents in some other towns. Wiltshire police were yesterday investigating the death of a 20-year-old man whose body was found slumped in a shop doorway in Warminster A post-mortem examination was being carried out and police appealed for information from any revellers who were in the town centre in the early hours.

Greater Manchester Ambulance Service reported a spate of violent incidents including a series of stabbings.

But mobile casualty units set up in Liverpool, Warrington arrival of 1999. Thousands and Manchester as a trial for more partied elsewhere in the next year were declared a success. Kevin Mulcahy, of the Mersey Regional Ambulance Service, said they had treated about 30 people each. "It is not juries, but police said most a huge number but it freed up 30 ambulances and meant people were not waiting in hospitals for hours for treatment."

One man was seriously ill after being assaulted in Wey-

Over the next few weeks. police and local authorities will study the information gathered from this year's celebra tions and start organising for the turn of the millennium.

But as one police spokesman said: "There will be many more people out but you have to remember it's a party and on the whole the crowds are goodnatured - it's not like it's a poll

You're never too old for student life

GOING BACK to college leads to BY BEN RUSSELL a long and happy old age, according to a report published

Campaigners with the National Institute for Adult Continuing Education (Niace) called for a huge expansion in independent, or even help them courses for older people and to go back into paid or voluntary said the stereotype of arts. crafts and holiday French for OAPs should be swept away.

courses would boom as the number of pensioners increased, and claimed that keeping people's minds fit and active would cut hospital and community care bills.

"Older people represent a wasted untapped resource which could be unleashed with more and better learning opportunities," said Jim Soulsby, author of the Niace report Older and Bolder.

"We would like to see a situation where the familiar retirement age of 60 or 65 is blurred so people have the opportunity to do work that they want, whatever their age."

The report, part of a national campaign to encourage more people to sign up at college, is being launched at the same time as the Government announces a £50m investment in careers and training advice for the over-18s. At present careers centres

deal mainly with teenagers leaving school or college. Ministers want to expand the advice available as part of Tony Blair's promise to bring an extra 500,000 people into college and university by 2002.

The Niace report said that it available for the elderly as the prove this."

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Education Correspondent

number of people in older age groups increased. More training and education for the elderly would help them to stay work, the report said.

Dotie Russell, 69, a retired civil servant, is setting up her They said demand for own mail order fashion business after enrolling on a threemonth women into business course near her home in Tidworth, Wiltshire.

She won the national senior learner of the year award for her work. She said: "I was sitting

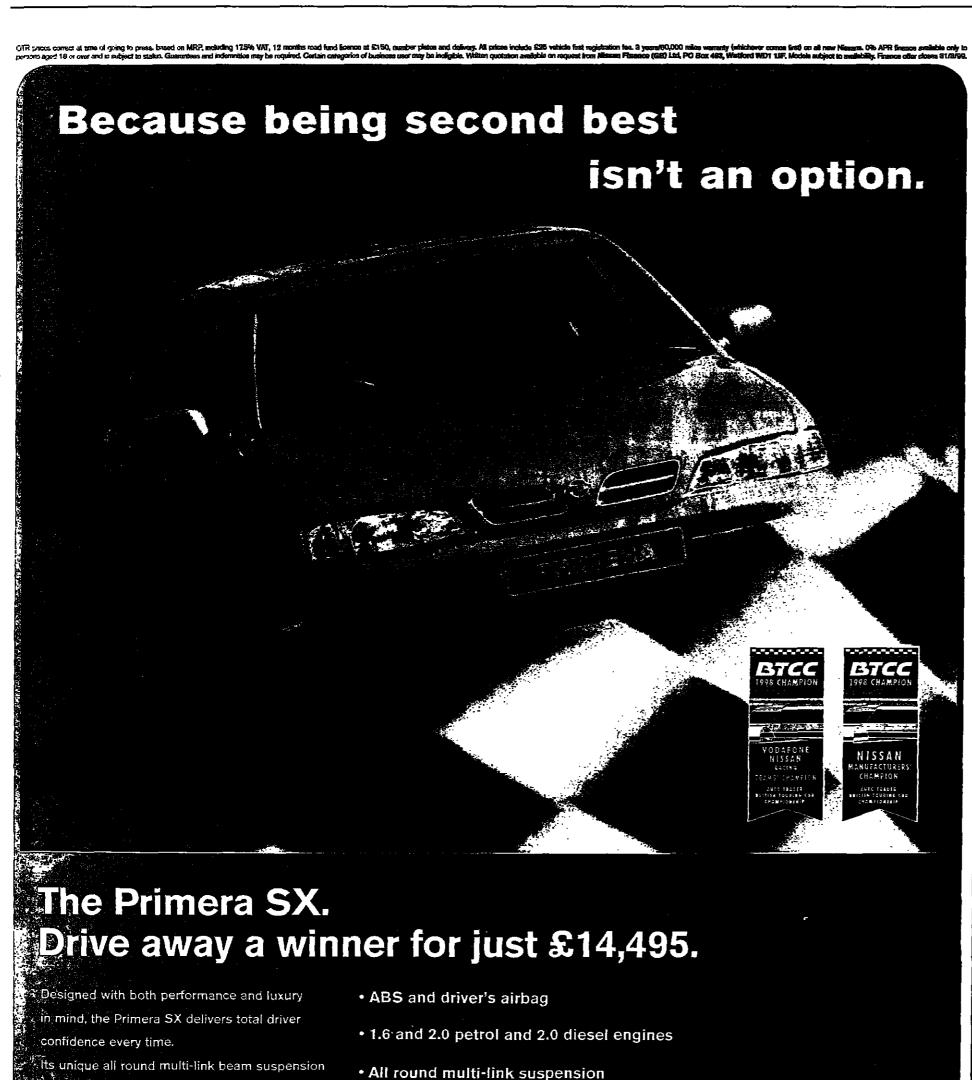
around at home doing nothing. "The first year of retirement is marvellous because you can do exactly what you want, but after a time you find you no longer have the same friends and there's nothing to aim for. Going on the course was absolutely marvellous."

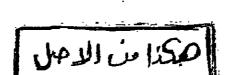
Mr Soulsby said: "There will be a dramatic expansion in demand over the next five years, because the number of people aged 50-plus will increase and they will be better-educated and more demanding. Doing some sort of learning in later life is lifechanging and creates opportunities for people.

"We always say use it or lose it'. Physical activity helps keep you active, but mental activity is just as important. "People say that getting

involved in some activity gives them more feelings of selfworth and well-being. There are was essential to increase the the beginnings of research number and variety of courses from America and Australia to

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WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE 11,717 VOTES 1564-1616; England's greatest poet and dramatist



WINSTON CHURCHILL 10,957 VOTE5 1874-1965; statesman and author;

WILLIAM CAXTON **7.109 VOTES** 1422-1491: first English printer; publisher of The Canterbury Tales



CHARLES DARWIN 6,337 VOTES 1809-1882; naturalist, famous for his theory of evolution and natural selection

4.664 VOTES 1642-1727: mathematician, physicist: regarded as world's greatest scientist



OLIVER CROMWELL 4,653 VOTES 1599-1658; soldier and statesman,

HAVE tried lately to read takespeare, and found it so tolerably dull that it nauseted me," wrote Charles Darrin. Unfortunately for the riginator of the theory of evontion, nearly 12,000 people disgreed with him and elected illiam Shakespeare as British ersonality of the millennium in BBC Radio listeners' poll.

arwin came fourth. The poll was organised by wio 4's Today programme, ch asked listeners to vote on ir choice of personality. A nortlist of six was drawn up results were

nnounced yesterday. Winston Churchill, a man ho insisted on victory at all osts, was narrowly beaten into econd place with nearly 11,000 otes, and William Caxton ame third. Following Darwin ere Isaac Newton and Oliver

Although the poll is certain have sparked lively debate in any households, the final nortlist did more to reveal the ons relative nature of the

verage Radio 4 listener. With barely a glance towards

BY KATE WATSON-SMYTH

women (Queen Elizabeth I managed 11th place), and given the choice of 1,000 years of British history, the voters plumped for six dead white English men. And the value of their achievements could be

Caxton did not invent printing, he merely imported it and Cromwell, a man whose defenders claim was the key fig-ure in establishing the world's first parliamentary democracy, is viewed by others as a ruthless tyrant who slaughtered

thousands of Irish people. Where were the women? What of Emmeline Pankhurst, the suffragette, Mary Wollstonecraft, the 18th-century feminist, and the Countess of Lovelace, the poet Lord Byron's daughter, who has been described as the first computer

programmer? Nor was there any space for Alexander Fleming, who discovered penicillin, or Alexander Graham Bell and John Logie Baird, the inventors of the telephone and the television.

There were, however, a num ber of votes for Peter Mandelson, the former secretary of state for trade and industry, the - French - footballer Eric Cantona and the Muppets character Miss Piggy.

Todau, said he was overwhelmed by the number of calls that the competition had generated. "Even though many thousands of listeners voted for

Rod Liddle, the editor of people would agree that Shakespeare should be there or thereabouts."

The actress Dame Judi Dench told the programme that she was particularly glad

man who pays the rent".

For many years in her early career, she had played nothing but Shakespeare, she said and her favourite play was Twelfth

In her household, she said, Night: "It's wonderfully constructed, so beautiful." Dame Judi plays Queen Elizabeth I in the new film

by Joseph Fiennes. Professor Stanley Wells, of the Shakethat he was delighted with the result and added that the Bard Shakespeare in Love, in which the monarch goes to a produc-"would very much have en-

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theatrical review

HE MOST important person in BY DAVID LISTER ritish theatre is Sir Cameron ey of the profession. The Stage newspaper annu-

ly draws up a list of the top 100 eople in theatre by canvassing ews throughout the theatrical orld. Impresario Sir Cameron ps the list with the Australian anet Folmes a Court, owner the Holl Moss group of the res, in second place - a reersal of last year's placings. he only performer in the top) is Dame Judi Dench.

But The Stage points out that mpiling the top 100 would be more accurate job if more box fice figures were published. ew theatres, commercial or thsidised, make public their

ox office returns. The criteria for the top 100 ost significant people in leatre today are based on invidual assets, the number of eople employed, quality of roduct, risks taken and conibution to the image and fure of the profession.

Among the actors in the top 10 are Sir Ian McKellen, who as been highly successful in eeds after vocally quitting Ravenhill, Jonathan Harvey, den; Ewan McGregor, who st y ar became a stage as well ; screen personality; Nigel awthorne, who has just rerived a knighthood; Geraldine cEwan; Ralph Fiennes; made it into the top 100.

Mackintosh tops



Sir Cameron Mackintosh, British theatre's No 1

Vanessa Redgrave and Dame Diana Rigg. The Stage says that Rigg's roles in Phedre and Britonnicus in the West End "confirm her position at the top of the profession".

There is no place among the actors for Helen Mirren and Alan Rickman, who were in the disappointing National Theatre production of Antony and Cleopatra. But Trevoi Nunn, artistic director of the National, is in the top 10.

Jim Cartwright and Terry Johnson join the expected names of Tom Stoppard, Alan Ayckbourn and Harold Pinter. No female playwrights have

Soap actors are second-rate'

STINGING attack on the qual- By David Lister y of acting in television soap eras has been made by a telesion scriptwriter.

Maurice Gran, the co-writer BBC TV's sitcom Birds of a ather, was scathing about BC's flagship series Eastnders as well as ITV's Coroztion Street, and said that ap operas generally were he enemy of quality".

He said in The Stage: "Eastnders is full of second-rate tors pretending they are urd Coronation Street is full second-rate actors pretend-

g they are funny. "I am not resentful of their ccess. I am just resentful of room they take up in the hedule and the difficulty that eates in getting a non-soap to the ratings top 10," he said. He added that television dra-

mas generally were following the lead of soaps in their attempt to become habit forming. "Heartbeat and Peak Prac-

tice are going for 26 episodes in a series, which is soap quantity. It worries me people want these fixed things in their lives. I also think the actors are underpaid and if they were paid the going rate, there would be far fewer soap episodes." He said a lead actor "gets a grand a show - which is about what the ninth lead in a sitcom gets".

A spokeswoman for East-Enders said the cast was paid a competitive wage.

A Coronation Street spokes woman said: "As for being the enemy of quality, the 18 million people who watch our show each week clearly disagree."

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heroic leader in Second World War







Lord Protector of England



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Hollywood stars gain legal right to privacy

By Andrew Gumbel in Los Angeles

WHETHER THEY woke up to the New Year with their spouses, their secret lovers or their dogs, Hollywood celebrities could take comfort yesterday in the introduction of a controversial new California law, giving them greater leeway to prosecute paparazzi snooping on their private moments.

The law, sponsored by the. Screen Actors' Guild in response to the controversy surrounding the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, beefs up the state's restrictions on invasion of privacy and makes anyone who trespasses on private property "with the intent to capture any type of visual image, sound recording or other physical impression of the plaintiff" liable to three times the normal level of damages.

Several leading film actors, including Arnold Schwarzenegger and George Clooney, had complained of serious harassment by press photographers and television crews and pushed hard for new legislation. Their cause was eventually taken up by the Democratic Party leader in the state Senate, John Burton, after lobbying by state legislators with close ties to the Hollywood establishment.

How effective the new law can be remains to be seen, as its provisions are already covered by other laws on privacy. Even the law's proponents admit it is discreetly worded to avoid clashing with freedom of speech rights guaranteed by

"It's very narrow," the pres- in Paris 16 months ago, severident of the Screen Actors al leading actors recounted Guild, Richard Masur, said how they had also come close when the measure came before to serious injury in showdowns a senate committee over the with paparazzi. Arnold summer. "We're trying to say. Schwarzenegger said he was



'Stay out of people's most pri- run off the road with his wife "Anything that attacks the pavate moments and out of their and two children. Alec Baldwin private property'." News orpunched a photographer on ganisations and civil liberties the basis that harassment had

advocates, however, are con-

cerned it will restrict journalists'

freedom without significantly

guarding against abuses. And it

might provide an already pow-

erful Hollywood PR machine

with another means to control

the content of newspaper and

'stalking' and invasion of pri-

vacy, the proposed Bill is actu-

ally an unnecessary legislative

intrusion into the First

Amendment rights of a free

press," the Sacramento Bee

newspaper wrote. "Much of

what it purports to limit is al-

ready illegal or subject to law-

suits charging abuse: the new law is simply a blunt instrument

with which legitimate photog-

raphers will be beaten along

with less scrupulous pa-

After the high-speed chase and car crash that killed Diana

parazzi'

"Cloaked in concerns about

magazine articles.

Basinger, to drop their baby. Several prominent Californian politicians, including the one-time student radical Tom Hayden, soon joined in the

almost caused his wife, Kim

parazzi is good for democracy," Mr Hayden said. Several early attempts to put an antipaparazzi law on the books foundered because of First Amendment problems.

The law that came into effect at midnight vesterday was heavily vetted by constitutioncampaign for tougher laws. al experts and fell far short of

Hitting back at the paparazzi: Arnold Schwarzenegger and his wife Maria Shriver, Alec Baldwin, George Clooney keep a requisite distance from their subjects on the street.

Stars have been resorting to other laws to protect their privacy. Last month, a news photographer was arrested in Los Angeles. accused of tapping calls between Tom Cruise and Nicole Kidman and trying to sell the material to tabloid papers.



Tom Cruise warns a photographer against approaching his children Star Images

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London 'hogs money for homeless'

AGENCIES HELPING the hom- By GARY FINN eless outside London say they are becoming increasingly frustrated at the "disproportionate" allocation of funds to the

scales have tipped too far, critics point to the Government's recent allocation of £145m over the next three years to finance a new Rough Sleeping Unit in the capital, which will be headed by a "Homelessness Czar".

On the same day, the minister for Local Government and Housing, Hilary Armstrong, announced a three-year £34m Homelessness Action Programme, money to be fought over by the rest of the country.

Ms Armstrong subsequently launched the Government's £4m Winter Shelter Programme with the promise of more than 500 extra bed spaces at the beginning of the month.

Only 73 of these were allocated to centres outside London - Bristol, Cambridge and Brighton. The rest will be scattered across the capital from Camden to Southwark.

The National Homeless Alliance estimates that two-thirds of the nation's rough sleepers are to be found outside London.

Maurice Condie, chief executive of the Byker Bridge Housing Association, in Newcastle, said the situation in many re-As proof that the funding gional cities had reached crisis point but agencies were not receiving additional resources to tackle the problem.

Byker Bridge runs 180 beds for the homeless, including an 18-bed direct access hostel aimed at those sleeping on the streets. "At our direct access hostel we are regularly four times oversubscribed. It's normally full but if we do have a vacancy it's gone within three to four hours, not days," he said.

Mr Condie said the problems faced by organisations outside London were "fundamentally different" to those in the capi-tal, and needed a specialised

The burning issue in the North-east was not a lack of housing but the lack of a wellfunded support network to help those suffering from mental health problems and alcohol

and drug addiction, he said. Staff at Byker Bridge described Ms Armstrong's £11m annual package as "a drop in

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MILLENNIUM BUG WATCH

THE GOVERNMENT agency charged with sorting out the millennium bug has warned that the problems could have started already.

Action 2000 has been raising the alarm over the bug, which is expected to throw computers into chaos in less than a year's time. But for businesses who use computers to order and pay for stock 12 months in advance, the arrival of 1999 could start the bug off, as 2000 will already feature on their system.

Gwyneth Flower, head of the government agency Action 2000, told the BBC Radio 4 Today programme yesterday: "We expect that from today onwards incidents will occur because it is the first time many computers will have seen 2000 for real." While large businesses



such as British Telecom, Barclays Bank and Unilever have spent millions combating the millennium bug, she said, many smaller companies fail to see the urgency.

Many companies have made up their own applications to suit their needs based on the year ahead, " said a spokesman for the agency. "Over the next few days there are going to be some problems and this might bring to light the relevance to companies of getting it sorted out." CATHY COMERFORD

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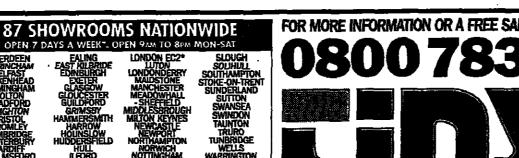
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How much of a European are you?

Do you know your euro from your elbow? Try this quiz. Part 1 tests Euro-knowledge. Part 2 examines Euro-attitudes. The answers will reveal your own personal Euro-character-

PART 1: FACTS AND FIGURES

A) The Cast of Characters

1. The European Central Bank president is (a) French (b) German (c) Dutch. 2. His name is (a) Louis Van Gaal (b) Wim Duisenberg (c) François Pienaar. 3. Oskar Lafontaine, the controversial German Finance Minister, has his domestic power-base in (a) The Saar (b) Westphalia (c) Bavaria.

4. Jose-Maria Aznar is (a) Left-winger for Real Madrid (b) A Ryder Cup golfer (c) Spanish Prime Minister.

5. Dominique Strauss-Kahn is (a) French starlet shown half-naked in FHM (b) Post-structuralist philosopher (c) French Finance Minister

6. Horatio Carbonari is (a) Derby County footballer (b) Leading Italian chef (c) EU commissioner for the environment 7. Yves-Thibault de Silguy recently said of Britain and Europe (a) "We can live without you. But you cannot live without us." (b) "For integrated markets to work, we must harmonise taxes." (c) "I am convinced that the UK will end up with only theoretical sovereignty in monetary terms" (d) "Of course a European state would be ideal. But it may take 100 years." (e) All of the above.

8. Yves-Thibault's views are significant because (a) He is Le Monde's most respected political columnist (b) He is EU commissioner in charge of the euro (c) He is Prime Minister of France.

9. According to radically Eurosceptic authors Ross McWhirter and Rodney Atkinson's book Treason At Maastricht The Destruction of the British Constitution, the Frankfurt headquarters of the European Central Bank have embarrassing historical connections. They were once occupied by (a) Messer-schmidt, makers of the Luftwaffe's fighter-planes (b) Volkswagen, which employed thousands of slave-labourers (c) IG Farben, makers of the death-camp gas Zvkion B. .

10. Rodney Atkinson is actually the brother of (a) Perma-tanned footy pun-dit Ron Atkinson (b) Blackadder co-median Rowan Atkinson (c) Both.

B: The Numbers

1. The number of countries now included in the euro is (a) 10 (b) 11 (c) 12. 2. Their joint population is (a) 250 million, just a little less than the US (b) 270 million, roughly the same as the US (c) 290 million, 20m more than the US. 3. A euro is worth roughly (a) 70p (b) 90p

4. If Britain joined the euro, treaty commitments would mean that it did so at a rate which valued the pound against the former Deutschmark at roughly (a) DM2.50 - the rate preferred by most exporters (b) DM2.70 - the rate at the time the euro came into being (c) DM2.95 the rate at which exports tend to drop

5. The base interest-rate set by the ECB for the whole of Euroland is: (a) 3%, less than half the UK's 6.35% (b) 4%, roughly two-thirds that of the UK (c) 6%, just marginally below the UK

6. Europe has (a) A smaller economy than the US, and smaller share of world trade (b) A smaller economy than the US, but bigger share of world trade (c) A bigger economy than the US, and big-ger share of world trade.

7. According to current estimates, by the year 2025 (a) Europe will be the world's biggest economy, with 32% of global GDP (b) Europe will be second only to Japan, with 24% of global GDP (c) Europe will fall behind the US and China, with 10% of global GDP.

8. The Maastricht treaty says the euro is to be a "hard" currency. Countries which try to spend their way out of trouble will be penalised. So rules setting up the euro limit national debt to (a) 50% of GDP (b) 60% of GDP (c) 100% of GDP. 9. Match these European countries – (a) France (b) Britain (c) Germany - to the amount of national GDP spent on social security: (1) 6% (ii) 15% (iii) 20%

10. A 1995 survey by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD) projected



economic, political and population trends of various Western economies. It gave estimates for national debt in the year 2030. So, to see which Euro-nations have reason to fear for their future prosperity, match these countries - (a) Britain (b) France (c) Germany (d) Italy - to these OECD projected figures: (i) Surplus of 9% of GDP (ii) National debt of 88% of GDP (iii) National debt of 93% of GDP

(iv) national debt of 126% of GDP

PART 2: **ATTITUDES**

Pick the statement which most closely matches your opinions: 1. The EU's Committee of the Regions is allegedly setting up regional govern-

unions, employer-groups and local authorities. England will be divided into eight such regions, some of which will also include parts of other countries, such as France. Is this (a) Nothing to do with me-local politics bores me stiff (b) Proof of the EU's determination to crush the nation state (c) Just another silly scare story dreamed up by Little

Englander sceptics.

a German called Professor Manired Dammeyer, recently said: "The concepts of the nation state are fading away. The new order is only just emerging from the shadows." Are his words (a) Completely beyond me (b) A sinister warning of things to come, couched in terms (eg "new order") distressingly reminiscent of Germany's past (c) Self-evidently true - the nation state is a thing of the past.

3. Plans to harmonise working times of European financial institutions will mean the abolition of all national holidays, including British bank holidays, except for Christmas Day and New Year's Day, Is this (a) Bloody daft - it'll never happen (b) Typical example of Brusse bureaucracy gone mad (c) An essential way of ensuring efficient management of a unified capital market.

4. Recent newspaper reports have re-vealed that EU regulations make both Guy Fawkes bonfires and paté de foie gras illegal (brushwood must be burned where it is cut; geese are harmed by being force fed to make fole grass). Is this (a) A nice story for the tabloids (b) A typical example of Brussels bureaucracy gone mad (c) Another infuriating case of irresponsible journalism. 5. When politicians such as Oskar

Lafontaine talk about "harmonising" European taxes, what they're really talking about is (a) The same sort of lies that all politicians, everywhere, spout about tax (b) Avoiding the reform of Germany's bloated tax system by dumping the same stiffing burden on to others (c) A perfectly rational proposal to ensure fiscal co-ordination within the euro zone. 6. Over the past two decades, millions of new jobs have been created by American business. Over the same period, there has been no net job creation in Europe's private sector. This proves that (a) Er... there are more McDonald's outlets in the US? (b) The flexible, low-tax US economy is infinitely more efficient than Europe's high-spending, highly regulated social democrat model (c) Most of those American jobs are lowskilled, low-paid, unprotected positions which would be unacceptable to Euro-

pean workers or their employers. 7. The charter of the European Central Bank makes it completely independent from political control by governments of member states. Is this (a) Of no interest to me whatever (b) Typical of the refusal

2. The Committee of the Regions' boss, of EU institutions to accept proper democratic accountability (c) A prudent way of ensuring that decisions are taken on sound financial grounds.

8. In the five years before Britain's 1990 entry into the exchange rate mechanism, our economy was among the most successful in Europe. During the two years in which we stayed in the ERM, we suffered the worst recession -as measured in total output loss - since the Thirties. This proves that (a) I know nothing about economics, could you run that by me again? (b) It is completely insane to subject the British econonly to interest rates determined by the needs of other countries, which may well have very different economic conditions (c) We made a purely technical error, going in at the wrong currency level, and so vulnerable to the sort of cur-

rency speculation the euro is designed

9. The proposed European Public Prosecutor's corpus juris is (a) Some sort of incomprehensible Latin jargon (b) A legal concept under which British citizens' rights to trial by jury, habeas corpus and protection in their own country would be rendered null and void by a Continent-wide legal system, under which foreign judges could summon Britons for trial without extradition proceedings, and then lock them up indefinitely (c) Essential harmonisation of a few areas of European law, badly needed to combat international crimes such as fraud, and based on proposals drawn up by British experts.

10. When I think of Europe, I think of (a) Pizzas, football teams and a couple of weeks on the Costa del Sol (b) A foul place, full of foreigners, that begins at Calais (c) An amusing chablis, a divine little dress from Armani, an adorable Merc sports car, and that villa, just outside Siena, where we spent a month last

11. The point about Europe is that (a) They can't fight for toffee, but the weather's nice and the booze is cheap (b) They'll always hate us, whatever we do, and it's always us that has to change. so we might as well get out now (c) Our partners would be far more reasonable, fonly we understood their problems and acted in a warmer, more positive manner towards them.

12. Given the choice, I'd rather Britain (a) Carried on pretty much as usual (b) Became one of the United States of America (c) Became four (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) of the United States of Europe.

ANSWERS

Part 1: Facts and Figures

Score I point for every correct answer

The Cast of Characters: 1, (c), 2, (b), 3. (a), 4. (c), 5. (c), 6. (a), 7. (c), 8. (b), 9.

The Numbers: 1. (b), 2. (c), 3. (a), 4. (c), 5. (a), 6. (b), 7, (c), 8. (b), 9, (a) / (iii), (b) / (i), (c) / (ii), 10. (a) / (i), (b) / (ii), (c) / (fi), (d) / (iv)

WHAT YOUR SCORE SAYS ABOUT YOU

ments, run by "social partners" like

5 to 9: You exist in a world of blissful ignorance, unaware of the geopolitical storms blowing around you. Your life has a certain enviable simplicity. When the time comes to cast your vote in the great Euro-referendum, you will probably abstain, or mark the wrong box by mistake. Are

you, by any chance, Tara

twice

a year and

your

first trip

should be to

the phone.

Palmer-Tompkinson?

Part 1: Facts and figures 10 to 17: Very much what one you have any) to distraction would expect from an Independent reader: well-informed without being obsessive. A keen observer, but not a trainspotter, you play your full part in our democracy with intelligence and perception. 18-25: Is this an anorak I see before me ... You are - are you not? - a fanatic. You compile

with your Euro-political obsessions. But in what direction do your obsessions point. For that we need to know how you answered ...

Part 2: Attitudes Mostly a: Your ignorance is matched only by your indifference. Irrespective of your fistatistics, compose pam-nancial status, intellectually phlets, drive your friends (if and politically you belong to

wasted on people like you. Mostly h: You spend your days scanning the latest scare-stories, working yourself up into a tiswas about the destruction of everything you hold dear and the ruination of Britain by foreigners. One small point: don't you think we've made

quite a good job of ruining it

ourselves? And something

the Lumpenproletoriat. Honelse: look at Europe's politiestly, universal suffrage is cians. Observe the contrast between their lofty rhetoric and their venal actions. Do they look like people about to abandon their national identities or

Mostly e: You exist in a miasma of self-loathing and cultural cringe, convinced that they do everything better in Europe. You live in dread that the great, gleaming Euro-train

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will depart for its date with destiny, leaving you on the plat-form. But consider, if you will, the endemic corruption of Italy, the profound insecurity of the French, their barelyconcealed fear and loathing of Germany, the Krauts' guiltridden but unsuccessful attempts to mask their natural inclination to boss everyone else around. Are we really so much worse than them?

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Banks fear new computer errors

BY SARAH WILSON

AS MOST people under 30 were staggering into bed in the early hours of New Year's Day, an army of technicians in the City of London was fuelling up with caffeine to face a 14-hour shift.

Champagne bottles remained firmly corked in the world's major financial centre, as the City suspended its traditional carousing until Tuesday. For currency trading insti-

tutions, the birth of the euro means adjusting millions of computer programs which were designed to calculate the newly obsolete conversions between Spanish pesetas and Dutch guilders. An estimated 30,000 City

workers have been racing against the clock since Thursday afternoon to ensure the new systems are working by the opening of the Tokyo foreign exIN THE CITY

change market in the early hours of Monday.

With so much of City trading reliant upon computers, the slightest glitch could mean millions of pounds going astray. Yesterday the deputy governor of the Bank of England warned: "Mistakes are possible".

Electricity supplies have been backed up twice over as a precaution. After several dress rehearsals, nothing short of a terrorist attack will be allowed to derail the conversion process. About a million Londoners are employed in financial services and the success of "conversion weekend" is crucial if the City is to maintain its dominance in the face of mounting competition from

Frankfurt and Paris. At Merrill Lynch, an Amer-

few campbeds were set up and Merrill provided copious snack ican investment bank with offices near Liverpool Street, 900 staff were working in shifts yesterday, centred on a bank of desks in its "control centre". On the wall, status boards were updated as each task was com-

pleted. Most banks also set up websites so other institutions and

clients could monitor progress. Mitch Shivers, the head of euro preparations at Merrill, said: "A lot of our work is virtual; every day in my home I get updates of what is happening. But for this weekend, we thought there would be a tremendous benefit in bringing everyone together." If anything unusual happened, colleagues could take the novel step of walking over and speaking to

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food and videos for the quiet periods. It also booked 200 hotel rooms and hired several minibuses to ferry staff during the 75-hour conversion period. Salomon Smith Barney, an-

Several sofas and even a

other investment bank, said it booked hotel rooms next door to its Victoria offices so that staff "could be asleep within half an hour" of leaving the premises.

Merrill even laid on a roundthe-clock helpdesk to enable staff to contact their families as they moved around the bank's 12 London sites. "We need people's expertise and dedication." said Mr Shivers. "But we do realise this is a holiday period."

But he promised that his staff's dedication would pay off. "There will be a hearty celebration on Tuesday. If things go well, we're going to party hard."

Euro fever is not built in a day

IN EUROLAND

EUROLAND AWOKE yesterday By JOHN LICHFIELD morning to a giant headache but in Caen it had little to do with the introduction of the euro.

"After all that was drunk last night, I don't think many people this morning want to try dividing anything by six-point something and I don't know what," said Jean-Claude Chapet, 57, leaning on the zinc counter of a horse-racing bar in the centre of Caen, Normandy.

In truth, the New Year's Day bank holiday, and the weekend, meant the euro, even in its limited plastic, electronic and cheque-book forms, was not supposed to make its debut at rency that disappeared nearly street-level in France until 40 years ago. "Then we only had Monday. One Parisian show-off to divide by ten to get the new managed, however, by prior francs. With the euro it will be pay for a New Year's Eve meal for seven at a restaurant on the Champs Elysée at five minutes past midnight vesterday morning. (His bill came to 298.80

euros or roughly £210). A brief survey of small businesses in Caen - all the big ones were closed - suggests the euro will take much longer to make its rather ghostly presence felt in provincial France. "Oh yes, we will be showing our prices in euros and francs," said Jean-Louis Richomme, 41, proprietor of a flower shop just off the Avenue 6 Juin. But when? "Oh, I think definitely before the end of this year, when we have everything sorted out with the

banks and our suppliers." The name of the avenue. the date of the D-Day invasion a few miles to the north, makes Caen as good a place as any to consider the implications of closing a century of two great European civil wars with the introduction of a single European currency.

The ancient capital of William the Conqueror was largely destroyed in fighting between French, British and German troops in June and July 1944. The mood of people in Caen yesterday - small businessmen and their customers was enthusiastic but unhurried. Although the franc had

reassuringly present in their pockets. Their coins and notes had been trans-substantiated into mere accounting units of a pan-European currency run from Frankfurt and serving 11 countries. But they still had Gustave Eiffel or Paul Cézanne on the back; a baguette still cost four francs and about 20 centimes, not 0.64 euros.

Claude Gervais, 55, another customer in the betting bar, complained that he still thought in "anciens francs", the curto do the sums."

A shrug of the shoulders and a slug of red wine. "I suppose we will get used to it. It's all three years away, isn't it?"

Until 1 January 2002, when the new notes and coins appear the euro will exist at street level only as an electronic, plastic and cheque currency. Small businesses are encouraged to show their prices in both euros and francs from Monday and to accept payment in euros by credit card or special cheques. There is, however, no compulsion on them to do so.

Jean-Claude Menard, proprietor of a large fishmongers selling fresh oysters, crayfish and lobsters for the continuing new year feasts, said: "Me, I'm definitely a European. With this new currency, we will be able to push the dollar around instead of being pushed around by the dollar. That has to be good for employment, doesn't it." But Mr Menard said he thought it would be "several months" before he had all his tills, bankers' card machines and price lists converted to op-

erate in the two currencies. In the meantime, the French state and its agencies are doing their best to excite the interest of their citizens. Any baby born in France yesterday was to be given a 100 euros (£70) present from the state.

vanished overnight, it was still Birth of currency passes Britain by

ON THE STREETS

ON THE streets of London yesterday, the only people clued up about the birth of the euro were German tourists.

Despite the acres of coverage given to its launch, few of the people interviewed by The Independent knew what a curo was worth (about 70p), many did not know how many countries had joined (11) and none could name the president of the European Central Bank (Wim Duisenberg).

Asked the value of a euro in sterling, Jas Phull, 42, a businessman, correctly said: "About 1.4". He added: "It will make it easier for trading. I think I understand it fairly well, but I baffled by the UK's reluctance haven't taken too much notice because we haven't joined."

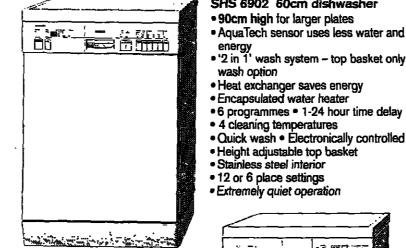
BY CATHY COMERFORD

Jane Wildsmith, 24, was not so sure: "I am not keen," she said. "I don't think we know

enough about it." Ben Phillips, 25, from Lon-don, works in information technology, servicing banks and financial institutions, and felt Britain might be missing the boat. "We already have such a drive towards harmonisation of markets. Traders don't want to

be left behind," he said. Eike Hoffman and Bastian Stichert, both 24, deftly calculated the conversion from euros to marks and sterling, and were over the euro. Bastian said: "I can't understand the British."





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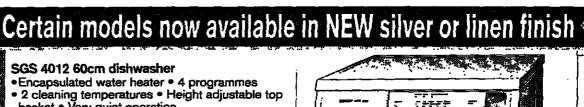
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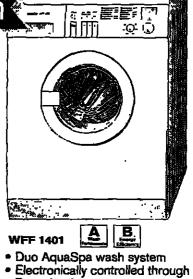
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AB WFF 1201

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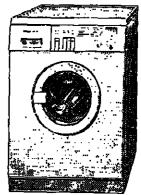
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Gore declares his presidential stand

WITH LITTLE fanfare, Al Gore By DAVID USBORNE emerged yesterday as the first in New York official candidate in next year's campaign for the American

After filing papers late on Thursday with the Federal Election Commission in Wash- to begin raising funds directly ington DC, he signaled his intention to make a run to as the next tenant in the White

Vice-President Gore, who yesterday was out of the capital on a family skiing holiday in Utah, said he now plans to create the "Gore 2000 Committee". Its formation will allow him to begin the critical task of raising funds for his campaign, to open a campaign office and to begin to hire campaign staff.

Mr Gore made his move just as his political partner of the past six years, Bill Clinton, was preparing to face a possible impeachment trial in the Senate

But in spite of Mr Clinton's the clear front-runner for the Democratic nomination.

Two other Democrat figures, former Senator Bill Bradley of New Jersey, and Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone, have also declared tentative plans for pursuing the presidency in re-

Both have created ex-

ploratory committees to study the viability of their joining the race. That less definitive step does not allow them, however, for campaign activities.

By moving more quickly succeed President Bill Clinton than his putative rivals for the nomination. Mr Gore hopes to get a jump-start on raising

With a changed calendar of election primaries that will squeeze the nomination process into the first quarter of next year, analysts estimate that any presidential hopeful must amass \$25m (£16m) this vear to have any realistic chance in 2000 - that is \$60,000 a day, every day of this year.

History offers some encouragement for Mr Gore. The last years have seen five US vice-presidents successfully make the leap to the presidency. They were Harry Truman, scandal-derived difficulties, the Richard Nixon, Lyndon John-Vice-President stands out as son, George Bush and Gerald Ford. Two former Democrat vice-presidents tried and failed to secure the presidency, however - Hubert Humphrey and Walter Mondale.

> If the enduring popularity of the Clinton administration survives the coming months, it should give Mr Gore a strong edge over his opponents. His



fortunes will also rest to a large extent on the economy and on hopes that the growth that has marked the Clinton presidency since its outset will endure.

Mr Gore has recently stepped forward to defend Mr Clinton against the impeachment allegations. He notably spoke out on the day impeachment articles were passed in the House of Representatives. "I feel extremely privileged to have been able to serve with him as his partner for the past six years," he said.

The Republican field has also begun to come into view. On Wednesday, Senator John McCain of Arizona filed papers announcing the cre-

ation of his own exploratory

Most eyes, however, are trained on the popular Republican Governor of Texas, George W Bush. While he has made no formal statements as yet, the son of George Bush is widely expected to make the

With many months still to go and plenty of scope for the unexpected, most observers none the less are looking forward to a 2000 race that will put Messrs Gore and Bush into combat for the White House.

Mr Gore is certain to take special care to ensure that his fund-raising for the race is above all suspicion.

The Attorney-General, Janet Reno, has twice declined to answer Republican calls to anpoint a special prosecutor to investigate claims that during the 1996 campaign Mr Gore violated election rules both at a fund-raiser in a Hindu temple and in making phone calls from his White House office.

Craig Smith, a veteran Democrat adviser who has been appointed as the Vice-President's campaign manager, told The Washington Post yesterday that special controls are being put in place.

"We've already got lawyers working on guidelines, rules and vetting procedures," he said. "It will be more extensive that in the past because of heightened scrutiny."



Riot police watch a car being burnt in the eastern French city of Strasbourg as rioting broke out on New Year's Eve. In all 23 people, mostly teenagers, were arrested but the damage was down on last year

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POLICE WERE questioning a BY KIM CURTIS utility worker in San Francisco after finding bomb-making materials, including "ready-togo explosives" and raw materials similar to those used in the Oklahoma City bombing.

hidden in two warehouses. The 44-year-old worker was taken into custody for questioning on Thursday after the first cache of explosives was found. He later led investigators to a second, nearby wareing stuff," said Sherman Ackerson, a police spokesman.

The employee's home in searched, but Mr Ackerson said he did not know what was found. Police said the worker, who was not arrested, has no local criminal record. His

name was not released. Authorities declined to comin San Francisco

ment on a motive for the explosives. The first bombmaking operation was discovered after a Pacific Gas and discovered water in a warehouse basement and followed the trail. Upstairs, the worker found 250lb of ammonium age locker.

Bomb-making cache

found in warehouses

whole bunch more bomb-mak- out of the building and evacu- had been no recent threats ated another building across the street. They were concerned that the fertiliser had San Francisco was also been mixed with volatile sub- found by police at the second stances and frozen to keep it

from exploding. A 33-gallon drum of chemibombs were found elsewhere in the building, as was a "small

tion, significant material to show there's a bomb-making operation going on, so we're being very cautious."

sives," Mr Ackerson said.

There's significant informa-

Scott Blakey, a Pacific Gas Electric Company employee and Electric Company spokesman, said there was no reason for ammonium nitrate to be in the centre, which combines warehouse space and nitrate thawing inside a stor- offices for employees who supervise the utility's meter against the utility.

Mr Ackerson did not offer specific details on what was warehouse.

Ammonium nitrate fertiliser was combined with fuel to cals and books on making make the 4,800lb bomb that destroyed the Oklahoma City federal building in 1995, killing 168 people. (AP)

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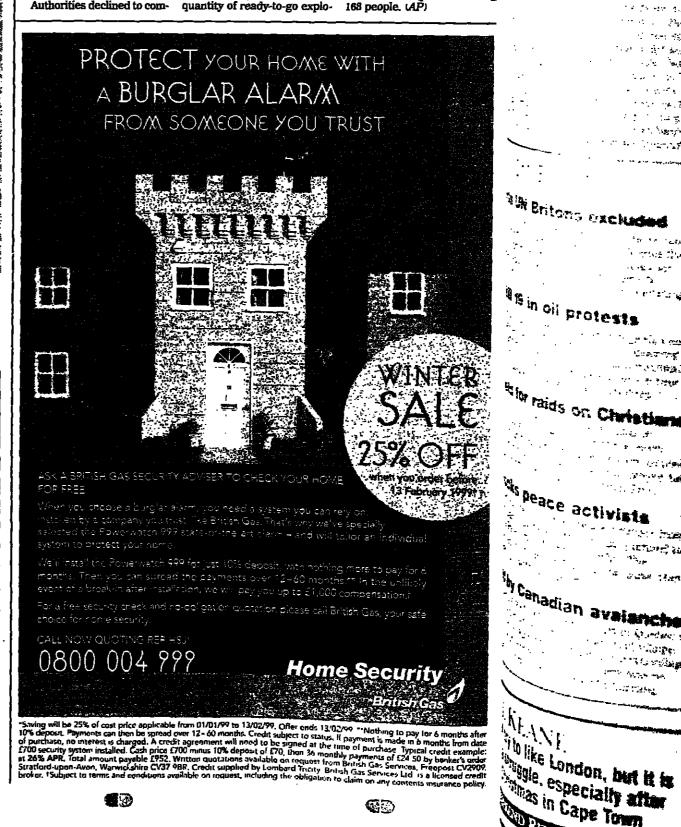
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Fascist chief spreads fear over Russia

WITH HIS greasy ponytail, he BY HELEN WOMACK looks absurd. But so did Hitler in Moscow with his moustache. Russia and the world would be mistaken to laugh off Alexander Barkashov. His Russian National Unity (RNU) party may be small but history teaches that a radical minority can turn a passive majority into a nation of scared yes-men.

Mr Barkashov has replaced the nationalist MP Vladimir Zhirinovsky as the bogeyman of Russian politics. In retrospect. it is clear that Mr Zhirinovsky, who spoke of "Russian soldiers washing their boots in the Indian Ocean", was only a licensed jester, a lightning rod for extremism and opposition to President Boris Yeltsin

Mr Barkashov is an altogether more sinister figure. Outside parliament and the establishment, he is quietly building up his forces and biding his time. Few people can say with any certainty how large those forces are. Russian television has shown pictures of RNU rallies in provincial cities at which hundreds of youths in black shirts and swastika armbands have given a salute identical to that of the Nazis. Liberals say the RNU has infiltrated the police and army.

The mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov almost certain to be a contender in presidential elections next year is sufficiently concerned to have banned rallies by Barkashov's supporters in the capital.

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SECTION STREET

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In a rare meeting with the press just before Christmas, Mr Barkashov, surrounded by Luzhkov for the constitutional right of assembly.

He also let slip that the RNU was planning to field "independent" candidates in parliamentary elections in 1999. This opened up the prospect of an unknown number of fascists attempting to take the Russian legislature by stealth.

In a country that suffered Nazi Germans, "fascist" is still a dirty word and Mr Barkashov is careful to deny the RNU is fascist. Yet, what else is a party that models itself on Hitler's, only adapting the design of the swastika slightly and exchanging the idea of an Aryan master race for the notion that Orthodox Slavs should impose "Russian order"?

"At the present time, the world is dominated by America, which bows down to money," say the RNU pamphlets. "But in its path stand the Russian people, carriers of the best human qualities, placing the spiritual over the material."

This was before the bombing of Iraq, which can only have

IN BRIEF

IRAQI DIPLOMATS at the UN are demanding the removal

of Americans and Britons employed by the UN from the humanitarian programme in Iraq. The call follows air attacks launched against Iraq last month after UN weapons inspectors said Baghdad was not co-operating.

oil region in Bayelsa State. Militant youths complaining about pollution and loss of wealth ordered multinational

oil companies to pull out by 30 December, at which time clashes broke out between soldiers and protesters.

Hindus held for raids on Christians

state of Gujarat. Four nuns and two priests were injured on Wednesday when mobs torched a Catholic prayer hall, the 10th attack on Christians since Christmas Day.

Israel blocks peace activists
ISRAELI TROOPS stopped 25 Israeli peace activists from

entering a West Bank village where they had planned to help to rebuild a Palestinian home yesterday. The authorities levelled the house on Tuesday because, they

Six killed by Canadian avalanche AT LEAST six people were killed and 25 hurt in Quebec on New Year's Eve when an avalanche hit an Innit village. The avalanche struck Kangiqsualujjuaq, a coastal village 950 miles north of Montreal. Police said there was no

possibility of any outside help because of a blizzard.

IN THE WEEKEND REVIEW PAGE 3

said, it had been built without a permit.

INDIAN AUTHORITIES have detained 45 Hindus in

connection with attacks on Christians in the western

Iraq wants UN Britons excluded

Troops kill 19 in oil protests

the West and all it represents. The pamphlet added that Russia's "little brothers", a term used in Communist times to describe people from other Soviet republics, had become "impudent, abusing the goodwill inherent in the Russian

hardened the RNU's hatred of

national character". The New York-based Russian academic Alexander Yanov has for some time been warning that Russia resembles Weimar Germany, or rather perhaps Slobodan Milosevic's Serbia, only with quite a few nuclear weapons.

Certainly, after seven years of bungled reform that has impoverished millions, Russian patience is wearing thin and some are seeking scapegoats. The hardline Communist MP Viktor llyuchin recently blamed Jews in President Yeltsin's entourage for the "genocide of the Russian people". The RNU casts its net wider and is ready to blame anyone who is not a

It is hard to believe that this ideology of hate still has currency, but it is so. Recently, I visited a commercial college in Moscow and had a sobering conversation with a youth who for his own protection I will call only Maxim K. He said he had been attracted by the idea of "Russia for the Russians" and, after reading one of the RNU's pamphlets, had telephoned and offered himself as a recruit.

"I was taken to a small milicons, hit back, declaring that itary training camp in the he would challenge Mr Moscow region. I do not know exactly where it was because we went in a closed van. There were about 1,500 young people there. I was shocked when I saw boys and girls being turned into killing machines. I realised that was not my way."

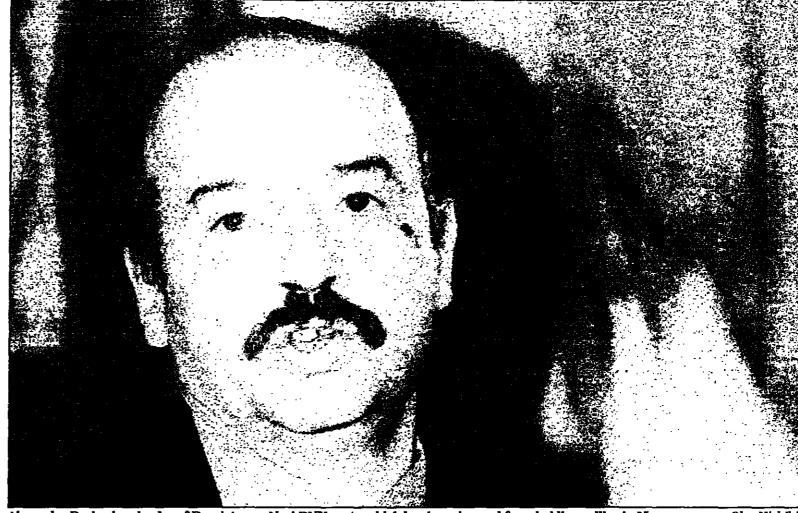
Nevertheless, he argued that the concepts of duty and honour were more important than human rights and that appallingly at the hands of the Russia should pull itself out of the economic mire by increasing arms sales.

There are others ready to foliow the RNU leader, an electrician and karate champion who made his name by fighting in the hardline uprising against President Yeltsin in October 1993. Earlier, Mr Barkashov had belonged to post-Soviet Russia's first extreme nationalist organisation, Pamyat (Memory), but left because he said the members did nothing but "engage in empty talk and

dressing up in uniforms". Mr Barkashov wants more and there are provincial Russian leaders ready to help him. After the RNU was banned in Moscow, Kirsan Ilyumzhinov,

the leader of the region of Kalmykia, where an outspoken liberal journalist was murdered last year, said the party was always welcome to rally on his territory. However, Russia is not

doomed to repeat the worst chapters of 20th-century history as a new millennium dawns. The assassination of the leading liberal, Galina Starovoitova, in November, galvanised Russia's divided democrats: President Yeltsin has declared war on extremism and a new anti-fascist movement in Moscow shows there are Russians with an historical memory and the courage to stand up and be counted.



Alexander Barkashov, leader of Russia's neo-Nazi RNU party, which has been banned from holding rallies in Moscow

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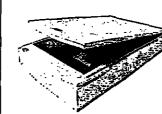
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Caring for a little boy who never grows up

ON A SUNNY winter morning, Jacques Stroobants is standing next to his personal charge, the bronze statue of a urinating boy that is probably the most familiar symbol of Brussels.

Mr Stroobants grins when asked if he can alter the angle of the world's best-known giant jet of water squirts into the street, scattering a gaggle of Belgian teenagers.

It is not difficult to underhas come to represent the spirit of the Belgian capital. The diminutive statue is more than that, however. Liveliboods in Brussels depend on this irreverent image, copied in key rings, bottle openers and predictably good pralines.

The present statue was commissioned in 1619 from Jerome Duquesnov. Legend has it that the first costume was offered in 1689, when Maximilian Emmanuel, Elector of Bayaria and Governor of the Netherlands, donated a blue woollen coat. The idea caught on, although for many years the

A WEEK IN THE LIFE THE MANNEKEN PIS' DRESSER, BRUSSELS

right to give the boy clothes to dress the Manneken Pis at is one of the items on display seems to have been a privilege

of the rich and powerful.

"pipi". Without warning, a MR STROOBANTS is the ultimate beneficiary of the munificence of the Manneken Pis and, aithough it has kept him in employment for almost 25 stand how the Manneken Pis years, it has not been without some personal sacrifice.

> On Christmas Day for example, Mr Stroobants turned out as usual to perform the duties ascribed to the statue's "official dresser". His post is less a job than a vocation, one that means he has never left the city for more than a few days at a time, but he is able to console himself with the fact that abroad comes to him each week with thousands of visitors flocking to see the statue. Even during the Christmas and New Year holiday he leaves home at 7,30am, arriving from the suburb of Haren

about 9am. This act is the in a glass case stretching main focus of the day - a reg- around the museum walls. The ular ritual on a set number of questionable taste of his outfits days each year (250 to be precise). Each day the statue is popularity. Indeed, some of it dressed must end with him being undressed at 8pm. Mr Stroobants saysthere are 641 costumes with a calendar for the dates on which they must be worn. Each 6 April, for example, the anniversary of the day the US entered the First World War, the statue wears the uniform of a Master Sergeant in the US Military Police.

MR STROOBANTS'S first port of call is around the corner in the Grand Place, the 17th-century square that acts as the focal point of the city of Brussels. The Maison du Roi is the city's official museum and home of the Manneken Pis costumes. These range from the historic to the tacky. An Elvis costume

and then undressed.

TODAY THE Belgian television network VTM wants an interview with Mr Stroobants, underlining his status as a minor celebrity. In the past the Dutch television station, Holland 1, has called, as has CNN, which

has not dented the statue's

is rubbing off on his dresser.

persisted despite the official dresser's lack of English. At Christmas, another of Mr Stroobants's unusual crop of tasks came around, despite his being on holiday. He is a city employee and, when the festive season comes about, complete with municipal nativity scene , it falls to Mr Stroobants to feed

the three sheep who spend

Christmas in a specially con-

structed straw-covered cage.

twice a day, after the Manneken Pis has been dressed

THE FOLLOWING three days of Mr Stroobants's week followed a similar pattern until Tuesday when the statue had a good clean - a task that took Mr Stroobants about half an hour

The Manneken Pis is relatively low maintenance and Mr Stroobants looks shocked at the suggestion that antifreeze might be necessary. Because of the constant, 24-hour circulation - "nuit et jour il fait pipi" - the water never freezes over, he says. There are periods, however, when the Manneken's waterworks require special attention. For two days in September beer rather than water passes through the fountain as part of a festival sponsored by a big brewery.

OUTSIDE THE holiday period Mr Stroobants will spend the middle part of the day as an

This task has to be done odd job man and decorator in the city's schools.

Any day can come to an early and unpredictable start with a call from the police. The Manneken Pis is kept going for 24 hours a day, 365 days a year and any interruption is Mr Stroobants's problem.

The most recent incident occurred in October when, to the horror of a large group of tourists, the Manneken Pis ran dry. The explanation was the usual one in these cases: youngsters had disconnected vital tubing for a prank. Worse has happened in the past.

The Manneken Pis (which was stolen twice in the 18th century by invading armies) fell victim to kidnappers 20 years ago, this time to a group of students. How does Mr Stroobants

feel towards the statue? "Je l'aime bien", he replies in respectful, rather than paternal, tones. Appropriate because the Manneken Pis and his custodian seem to look out for each other.

STEPHEN CASTLE



Forests set to reclaim countryside of France

IN THE Middle Ages, England By JOHN LICHFIELD was so covered in trees that an athletic squirrel could have jumped from branch to branch from the Severn to the Wash. Those great English forests have long gone; but not those in France. According to a recent survey. France now has more acreage of forest than at any time in the past 1,000 years. In other words, as the 20th century closes, France is more densely covered in woodland than it was in the Middle Ages.

The de-population of rural France, the retreat of agriculture from poorer, hillier land and a deliberate policy of afforestation in mountainous fourth most forested country in Western Europe, after Sweden and Finland and just be-

hind Germany. On present trends, the proportion of France under forest -28 per cent – should overtake Germany's 30 per cent early in the new century. By contrast, the United Kingdom has one of the lowest areas of woodland in Europe, with only 10 per cent covered by trees.

It would be a clever and athletic French squirrel, however, which managed to jump from branch to branch from the Rhine to the Bay of Biscay. The growth of the French woodlands in the past 40 years has been paralleled by the decline of a much-loved feature of France - the linear forest or tree-lined road.

The widening of roads and the expansion of farms, in some areas, into huge cereal and dairy ranches have massacred the long stands of trees that used to be so typical of the French landscape.

Jacques Trouvilliez, forestry director at the Office National des Forèts (ONF), said: "At the rate of disappearance of this kind of forest, we are in danger huge woodlands, totally cut off, as pines and firs.

one from the other. That would be very dangerous for our flora and fauna."

rkets

The national forest office also points to an environmental paradox. In the Seventies it was feared that atmospheric pollution in the form of acid rain would kill the great forests of Europe. Three decades later, atmospheric pollution is one of the factors causing the French forests to flourish.

Roland Roman-Amat, the director of research at the ONF, said: "Not only are forests spreading in France, they are areas have made France the also growing more quickly than in the past... the trees are getting bigger and the foliage much richer."

This can be attributed only to carbon monoxide pollution and global warming, he said.

The resurgence of the French forests began in the 1820s, by which time the woodland areas had fallen to less than 10 million hectares, or 15 per cent, of the French land area. The process accelerated after the Second World War with the retreat of agriculture which has lost five million hectares of cultivated land in the past four decades - and European Union and national grants for afforestation of hilly regions.

The ONF now estimates total French woodland at 16 million hectares – about the level it had reached at the start of this millennium.

Almost two-thirds of French woodland consists of the native, broad-leafed trees of the ancient western European forests - oak, beech, elm and ash.

Oaks alone account for 37 per cent of all woodland in France. About 36 per cent of the total - mostly in the mountains and in the south - is covof ending up with a series of ered by evergreen trees, such

Chinese dissidents form labour party

formed an independent labour party, despite a government crackdown that has put dozens of their colleagues in prison, an

exiled activist said yesterday. Organisers of the new group, the Chinese Labour Party, will attempt to register the group in Peking, according to a USbased dissident, Ye Ning.

In recent weeks, China's ruling Communist Party has imprisoned leaders of another would-be opposition group, the China Democracy Party, in its most severe suppression of dissent in three years. The crackdown has prompted dissidents in China and in exile to protest and demand the release of the democracy campaigners. "The

headache. Now, here comes the Labour Party. People are

tired of terrors," Mr Ning said. China's leaders have said they will increase efforts to quash any challenges as the country approaches several anniversaries, including the 10th anniversary of the Tiananmen Square massacre and the 50th anniversary of the founding of Communist China.

The government rejected all efforts by members of the China Democracy Party to register the group. It is unlikely to welcome attempts to form independent trade union groups or the Labour Party, given its fears of the rising unrest among retrenched workers and China Democracy Party has al- farmers. (AP)



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BUSINESS

Bell Atlantic linked to \$45bn takeover

BELL ATLANTIC, the largest By Andrew Garffeld American local phone company, is in \$45bn takeover talks with AirTouch, the world's American telecommunications biggest cellular phone compa-American TV network CNBC that cited "people close to the

The report said that an allshare deal could be announced early next week. It would be the eighth-largest acquisition ever, in interviews in the US press and just the latest manifestation that the company - which has of the merger frenzy in the been aggressively expanding in

Financial Editor

sector which has seen a raft of ny according to a report on the megadeals in the past six months alone.

Air Touch has been linked in the past with Britain's Vodaphone and MCI Worldcom. Airtouch's chief executive officer Sam Ginn has said repeatedly

Europe - would be open to They were not returning calls sonal communication joint ven- AT&T which leads the US cel-. company has operations in 12 ready at record levels last year, takeover offers. According to the latest reports, Beli Atlantic However, analysts said the would offer AirTouch share-

holders a premium of less than 10 per cent on the current share price. Air Touch's shares jumped \$31/6 to \$727/16 on Wall Street on Thursday before the market closed for the New Year's holiday. Bell's shares

feil 31/2 to \$56. Neither Bell Atlantic nor AirTouch have been prepared to comment on the reports. PrimeCo, a paging and per-

deal would make a great deal of sense, providing it could clear potential regulatory hur-

The American authorities

are still scrutinising the \$52bn merger unveiled between Bell Atlantic and GTE, the long-distance phone operator, in July. Bell Atlantic and Air Touch already have links through

ture which operates in more than 30 American cities. The it a strong position of overseas pair also have a joint equipment purchasing arrangement in the US and use the same mobile

phone technology. US regulators may force Bell Atlantic to sell some of its existing cellular activities as the price of getting the merger through.

Acquiring Airtouch would put Bell Atlantic on a much better footing to compete with is now coming overseas. The

iular market as well as giving other countries including Belmarkets which account for half Airtouch's cashflow.

Airtouch boasts 16 million subscribers world-wide, up 35 per cent on a year ago. It added more than one million new customers in the third quarter. Demand for cellular tele-

phony is growing far faster than the fixed line market. However, most of the growth

gium, Italy, Germany, Japan, Poland, Spain, South Korea and

"Bell Atlantic would be getting Air Touch at a good price," said one analyst yesterday, adding that the market had consistently failed to grasp the fall value of Air Touch's overseas operations.

The news of the talks suggests that the merger activity

will not abate in 1999. The past few months have

seen the announcement of a \$62bn merger between SBC Communications and Ameritech, the \$48bn acquisition of cable group TCI by AT&T and the \$1bn international joint venture between British Telecom and AT&T. The deal followed the collapse of BT's earlier plans for a merger with MCI, the second-largest US in-

Monetary union: Asia looks for wider co-operation despite doubts over the European Central Bank

Top-heavy ECB faces test by the markets

FROM THIS weekend the BY STEVE LEVINSON European Central Bank will formally take over the running of monetary policy for nearly 300 million people in 11 countries. In a truly historic shift of power it will displace the mighty Bundesbank the Bank of France and all the other central banks of Euroland.

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Trees.

What nobody knows is its job, whether it has been set to operate efficiently. The omens are not good.

To be successful, a central bank needs to demonstrate quick thinking and flexibility, an ability to respond to a changing financial environment. The US in the autumn to rescue Long-Term Capital Management, and head off a potential market panic. In its own way, the Bank of England has engineered a Uturn in policy in a few short months, cutting interest rates aggressively as the economic climate has altered. In both ases the decision-making

process worked. But the way the European Central Bank has been set up is much more top-heavy. An executive of six people, headed by the Dutchman Wim Duisenberg, is the heart of the Bank, but it is not the body that will make interest rate decisions. That is the domain of a so-called governing council, which consists of the six executive members and the central bank governors from each euro member country. This means a 17-person committee, which will rise to over 20 if and when second-wave countries join the

single currency. Not only is this clearly an unwieldy number, it is quite likely to set the scene for a power struggle between the six executives and the 11 governors, who may find themselves cast in the role of guardians of their own nation's interests. The role of the governors is highly am-

biguous. They are supposed to put aside their personal or national viewpoints and take a European perspective, but that will be a difficult path to tread, especially if their domestic economies are out of synch.

The lack of an executive majority on the committee, the whether it will be any good at size of the committee and the uncertain role of the goverup in a way that will enable it nors make it at least possible that the governing council will not be a quick-witted body. Just how slow-witted it is will only become clear the first time there is a crisis in Euroland.

The contrast between this set-up and the Bank of England's Federal Reserve moved smartly arrangements is stark. The Bank's Monetary Policy Committee is made up of just nine people, of whom five are Bank executives and four are outside economists. There is no representative of a particular region or sector of the economy. This is an arrangement that has annoved some parts of the business community but it allows members of the MPC to be personally accountable for their decisions.

The financial markets have come to understand the nuances of this system and the thinking of the committee. Within two weeks of the monthly MPC meeting, the minutes are published. These show the arguments that have been put forward at the meeting, and reveal which members favoured which interest rate options and which way they voted. The markets get a further insight into the committee's thought processes from the Bank's quarterly Inflation Reports and the inflation and growth forecasts they contain.

This is a remarkably open and transparent system, and in the eyes of many this transparency helps the smooth operation of monetary policy by the Bank of England.

takes a completely different



Wim Duisenberg heads the ECB's six-person executive. But interest rate decisions are taken by a council that also includes 11 central bank governors from member countries

and there will be no way of finding out how members of the governing council voted. Nor will there be any publication of inflation forecasts.

The ECB is quite clear about why it is taking this stance. It does not want people knowing which way the votes are cast, because this would compromise the independence of the governing council members. In other words the members ought not to be put in a position

ments to vote for or against a particular interest rate move. Wim Duisenberg argues that the markets will receive all the information they need from press conferences and speeches that he and others will give. But this is clearly a far less transparent way of operating than we have become used to in Britain, and it remains to be seen if the ECB will operate efficiently in

armed with an existing ad-

missile system.

to pressure from their govern-

such a secretive environment. This lack of openness raises a related issue of the bank's accountability. The ECB will be an institution that has to answer to hardly anyone.

The European Central Bank Unlike any other central bank, there is no government for view. The ECB is not going to it to be answerable to. It is for-

publish minutes of its meetings bidden by treaty to seek or accept political guidance. Wim Duisenberg is obliged to report at least once a year to the European Parliament and the Council of Ministers, but in no real sense is he responsible to them. He cannot be sacked (although he says he might resign halfway through his eight-year stint), and the other executives also have eight-year non-re-

newable contracts. There is one other area of weakness that might sooner or where they might be subjected later be tested. The ECB is not responsible for supervision of the banking system in the euro area. That remains, for the moment at least, the province of the national supervisors. How the ECB would act if a major financial institution needed rescuing is a large and unanswered question. But co-ordinating a lifeboat in the way the Fed did in the US this autumn might prove to be beyond it, with potentially catastrophic

> Europe's new central bank is being launched into relatively calm economic waters. But it has a number of serious design flaws. Only when the waters turn more choppy, as they inevitably will, will we learn if the flaws are fatal ones.

Tokyo urges global currency system

THE Japanese Prime Minister BY ANDREW GARFIELD Keizo Obuchi is to float the idea of a new international currency system linking the yen, euro and dollar when he visits key European capitals next week.

Mr Obuchi, who leaves Tokyo on Wednesday for an eight-day trip encompassing France, Germany and Italy, is backing the idea of allowing the three currencies to fluctuate within a limit range in order to prevent the huge swings that have rocked financial markets in the past few months.

The idea will almost certainly receive support from European leaders who are hoping that the creation of a new giant currency zone with the euro will prove to be a catalyst for a return to the kind of managed currency system that prevailed in the immediate post-war years until it was ended by the decision to float the dollar in the

The chief executive of the Hong Kong Monetary Authority, Joseph Yam, last week proposed the idea of an Asian monetary union along similar lines to the euro, although he ad-

Keizo Obuchi: Dollar, yen euro would be linked

mitted that it could take decades

Germany's left-wing finance minister Oskar Lafontaine and his French counterpart Dominique Strauss-Kahn have expressed support for a global currency system as a bulwark against speculators.

However, the idea is unlikely to be met with enthusiasm in the US, which is hostile to such interventionist policies, even

winning converts among academic economists in the US.

Mr Obuchi also wants to see an enhanced international role for the Japanese currency, which at present accounts for just 5 per cent of international trading. That compares with 48 per cent for the US dollar and 31 per cent for the European

That is expected to increase dramatically with the advent of the euro, which most economists expect will swiftly become a major component of the reserves held by central banks around the world.

In his New Year's address. Mr Obuchi said he was confident Japan would return to positive growth this year. He said the government would make all necessary efforts to achieve its economic growth target of half a percent in the new 1999 financial year which starts in April. This would include a new economic plan which would include efforts to restore the health of the financial system, which is groaning under a mountain of debt, and restart though similar ideas have been Japan's stalled industrial base.

Missile deal 'threatens jobs'

By Michael Harrison

THE GOVERNMENT was warned yesterday that exports of the Eurofighter could be jeopardised and thousands of jobs lost if Britain selects an American missile system to arm the aircraft. British Aerospace and GEC,

who are heading a European consortium to develop the Meteor air-to-air missile, also fear that Britain's expertise in guided weapons could be lost if the rival Raytheon consortium is selected.

The value of the UK programme is about fibn, while sales of the missile system to other European countries buying the Eurofighter could be

Worth another £1bn. Beyond that there is a vast Potential export market outside Europe which the BAe/GEC consortium fears could be affected if the Eurofighter is



Meteor in flight: Due to go into service in 2005, it would arm the Eurofighter and Anglo-Swedish Gripen

American-armed, since US approval would be needed for any sales to third countries.

The Ministry of Defence is due to decide between the two bids in the first half of this year and award the production contract towards the end of 1999.

The Meteor - a beyond visual range air-to-air missile capable of being fired before enemy aircraft have a chance to fire back - is due to go into service in 2005. It would arm both the Eurofighter and the Anglo-Swedish fighter aircraft, the Gripen, which is developed oly over the air-to-air missile range air-to-air missiles.

well as control over which countries we can sell the Eurofighter to." The Meteor programme will

safeguard up to 1,000 jobs at BAe sites in Stevenage, Bristol and Lostock near Bolton, and thousands of indirect jobs at suppliers as well as several thousand jobs across Europe. jointly by BAe and Saab. Until The other members of the conthe Meteor enters service the sortium are Saab, Alenia of Spain and CASA of Spain. Eurofighter and Gripen will be

market for the next 30 years, as

The Eurofighter's main batvanced medium range air-to-air tle threat will be Russian-made missile. The Pentagon has al-SU35 and MiG 29 fighter airready blocked an attempt by craft, which are armed with a Sweden to sell the Gripen to missile system known as AA12 Finland by refusing to allow the which the Malaysians have alaircraft to be armed with its ready bought.

The advantage of the Mete-Alan Garwood, deputy chief or is that its ramjet motor techexecutive of Matra BAe Dy-nology allows it to be fired from namics, said: "The outcome of a distance several times this contest will decide whether greater than the 30-kilometre the US has a complete monop- range of existing medium-



Don't miss The Independent this Thursday for our preview to the 'Big Blue' London Boat Show,

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PROUD SPONSOR OF THE BIG BLUE EXPERIENCE AT THE LONDON BOAT SHOW

SPORT

Baseball: The big money is made in America, but the game is still followed with revolutionary zeal by Fidel's followers

Diamond passion of Castro's Cuba sest's



RICHARD WILLIAMS

two anniversaries this week. Dif-Cubans. For some, it marks the 40th birthday of the Revolution. For others, it's a year since Orlando "El Duque" Hernandez joined the New York Yankees

In the early hours of New Year's Day, 1959, Fulgencio Batista slipped away from a party at the presidential palace and took a plane to exile, leaving the island to Fidel Castro's Rebel Army. This time last year Orlando Hernandez was sitting on an uninhabited rock 40 miles from the Cuban shore, waiting to be picked up by the US coastguard. Hernandez had left a £6-a-month job as a nurse in a Havana psychiatric hospital; within days he would be signing a contract worth £4.5m over four

Those figures say a lot about Cuba, about the United States, about sport and business, and about human values. As someone points out during A Diamond In The Rough, a documentary made by the BBC2 Arena team and to be shown tonight, it would have taken Hernandez 60,000 years to earn in Cuba the sort of money he's now making in the US

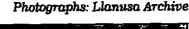
But when El Duque came off the bench to complete the Yankees' clean-sweep victory in the 1998 World Series, it was hard not to imagine Fidel Castro, back in Havana, standing up to cheer. Just as he might have done when Orlando's half-brother Livan, who defected two years earlier, repaid the worship of Miami's community of exiles by title in 1997. For if there's one thing Fidel likes as much as a sheet of paper showing an increase in the sugarcane crop, it's a game of baseball. And when he sees the Hernandez brothers on television, or any of the Cuban players who have defected to the US in recent years, perhaps he thinks back to his own youth, to his days at university in the early 50s, when he pitched for the School of Law baseball team and met Joe Cambria.

A lot of young Cuban ball-players met Cambria, a scout for the Washington Senators, in those days. During the Second World War, when military service deprived big clubs of many players, Cambria started visiting Cuba. Over the next 25 years he signed more than 400 Cubans - at first only men of Spanish ancestry but later, after Branch Rickey had smashed the game's colour bar by bringing Jackie Robinson to the Brooklyn Dodgers, also players of African origin.

In fact, a Cuban could have taken Robinson's place in history. Looking for the right man for his purpose, Rickey approached Silvio Garcia, a Cuban pitcher playing in the US Negro League. Trying to discover whether Garcia had the necessary temperament, Rickey asked him: "What would you do if a white American slapped your face?" Garcia's response - "I kill him" - was not what the Dodgers' president had

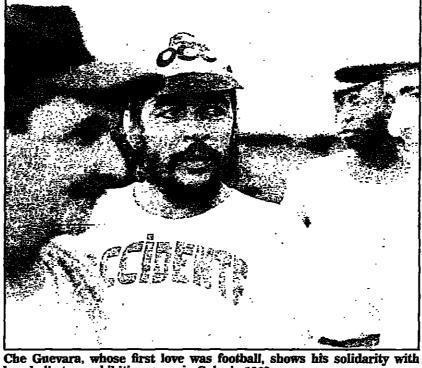
The young Fidel Castro Ruz had his own reasons for refusing the siren call, "I think if Fidel had







Fidel Castro, who could have been a top pitcher had his career



baseball at an exhibition game in Cuba in 1962



Orlando 'El Duque' Hernandez now earns millions with

would have triumphed in that, too." is the loyal testimony of Eddy Martin. Cuba's veteran baseball commentator. But Castro certainly never lost his passion for the game. Six weeks before the fall of Ha-

vana, he and 230 guerrilla soldiers marched on the small town of Guisa. where a garrison defended the central highway. After a 10-day action, the government forces withdrew. "As his men searched the town, Castro sat on a box, conversing about baseball with townspeople and eating fish with his fingers," a biographer wrote. "He had hoped to learn why Milwaukee's Carleton Willey, who had received the Rookie of the Year award of Sporting News, pitched only one inning in the World Series, while the veteran Warren Spahn started three games. With Willey on the mound in the seventh and deciding game, he said, the Braves might have defeated the

Baseball came to Cuba in the signed for the major leagues, as he 1860s, and the local history of the has triumphed in everything else, he game quickly became interlinked Rebel Army soldiers relaxed by lis-

Yanguis.

with the struggles against imperialism and repression. Emilio Saburin, who founded the first Cuban baseball league in 1878, was arrested as part of a crackdown on the game in the 1890s when the Spanish colonial authorities discovered that profits from the league were being used to finance Jose Marti's independence movement. Sabourin was shipped off to a Span-

tening to radio commentaries. And in 1955, during a ban on public meetings imposed by the nervous Batista government, student protesters carried their banners on to the field in the middle of a nationally televised game, and were beaten up by armed guards in full of the

Even after the revolution, Cuban

and cutting cane helps in baseball," Fidel once said, talking to reporters while wielding a machete during a morale-boosting visit to a state sugarcane farm in 1966. He had just been given the news of the defection of his chief sugar expert during a trade mission to Madrid. And by that time, the economic boycott had deprived Cubans of a supply of sports

clubs continued to compete with

teur world championships held in the Dominican Republic was seen as revenge for the American invasion of that country four years earlier. "It was a way for the Dominican people and the Cuban people to demonstrate against what had happened," Eddy Martin says. "Not against the players, who couldn't be held reequipment, including baseballs. A sponsible for the actions of their government, but against the interference of the United States in our country." And you had to be in Barcelona's Estadio do Beisbol on

the joy of the Cubans in defeating the US team in the semi-finals of the Olympic tournament. to an argument which divides not the sons of another great player, Ar-

naldo Hernandez of Havana's In-

dustriales club, the first to be called

El Duque. But when Livan defect-

oppressor. Victory in the 1969 ama-

savour he believes he has found free-But Omar Linares of Pinar Del Rio, whose eight home runs in Atlanta helped Cuba to a second Olympic gold medal, and who has turned down numerous offers to dean August day in 1992 to appreciate philosophical divide between loyal-

fect, stands at the other side of the ty to the state and loyalty to self. "We play for the people," he says, "Everything I've done and all that I am, I There are, of course, many sides owe to this nation. We give our all for but, increasingly, the generations.
Livan and Orlando Hernandez are the sons of another spect along. with the aim of offering you money to play in a team. It doesn't have to be any team in particular."

thorities and, by his own account,

told that he would never play base-

ball in Cuba again, Now, driving his

with all the food he can eat, more

money than he can spend, and the

memory of a tickertape parade to

A Diamond In The Rough can be

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As his men searched the town, Castro sat on a box, conversing about baseball with townspeople and eating fish with his fingers

ish jail in Morocco, where he died of

Half a century later, Martin Dihigo, a black player who became an All Star in four countries, made a modest financial contribution to the nascent revolutionary movement during a chance meeting with Che Guevara in a Mexico City restaurant. During their six-year campaign, the

Yanqui teams in the International League. In 1959 the Sugar Kings beat the Minneapolis Millers of the American Association to take the 1959 minor-league World Series, in the presence of Fidel and El Che who, being from Argentina, much preferred football. Three years later, the US economic and social blockade put an end to such meetings.

initially using the mechanism of an old gramophone to wind the balls' cores. Today the technology is a little more advanced, but the casings are still hand-stitched with the sort of care otherwise devoted to the rolling of cigars.

To pro-revolutionary Cubans, the baseball diamond offers their only chance for public humiliation of the ed. Orlando was harassed by the auseen on BBC2 today at 8.15pm. "Baseball helps in cutting cane,

> it matter what I think? Then there is the ongoing difficulty with the floodlights. Or more precisely, the

amount of upward light spillage from the floodlights, which operators at nearby Stansted Airport fear might distract their pilots. The airport is keeping an open mind on the question until the lights are operating; the club, meanwhile, must keep handy an open cheque book.

There has been a catalogue of things going wrong." Stephens said. "And it is easy for those close to the club to get paranoid and think that

everyone is against us." I guess that's why they call them The Blues. The ever-shifting schedule proved too much for one of the players earlier this season. Wrongly

late even to be named as a substitute, and parted company with the club soon after.

The club has also parted company with not one, but two managers this season. Having dispensed with the luckless Paul Taylor after a few games, they decided last month to get rid of the likeable but imprudent Terry "If they score five, we'll score six" Back. It now falls to player-manager Terry Robbins, a former Welling United hotshot, to guide the

Bishop's Stortford hindered by an Anglo-Saxon plot

HERE'S A new year quiz question which football team plays its home matches at Saffron Walden, St. Albans, Ware, Dagenham, Borehamwood and Hitchin? The answer is displayed on a new sign, half a mile up our road, pointing off to an industrial estate - Bishop's Stortford FC. Here lies the problem.

Bishop's Stortford FC are not to be found within the industrial estate; nor indeed within the town whose name they bear.

Since December 1997, when the ground it had inhabited for more than 60 years was sold off for redevelopment, the club's proposed transfer to a new stadium on a green-field site has suffered a succession of hitches. In the meantime, its team has come to resemble an ever-changing band of strolling players whose results have been, well, motley.



MIKE **ROWBOTTOM**

Last season, relegation from the Ryman League Premier Division was narrowly avoided. This season, which the team was supposed to have begun in its new home - pause for hollow laughter from supporters - the drop beckons again.

As a young reporter, I followed Bishop's Stortford FC - the last winners of the old FA Amateur Cup when they returned to Wembley in 1981 and won the FA Trophy. The following year, they gave a Middlesbrough side managed by the Fedora'd One, Malcolm Allison, a replay and a run for their money in the FA Cup.

Hark, did you hear that sound? I believe it was a far cry. But Stortford's uneven form of

off-field turmoil. The sale of the old Rhodes Avenue ground raised a reported total of £1.5million to be sunk into the new venture close to the M11 motorway - although a sizeable chunk ended up in the pockets of the legal fraternity following a public

inquiry into the move.

late is hardly surprising given the

As a sequence of practical problems has pushed the moving in day relentlessly back from September, the pot has been diminished by unforeseen costs for the extra travelling and hiring of grounds. Not to mention the £1,000 fine imposed by the Ryman League for every home fixture which has to be played

on another club's ground. These problems. Let's take a look

There's the access road problem. (Isn't there always, in these cases?) Uncertainties over fire and safety certificates. Delays because of weather (too cold). Delays because

of drainage difficulties. Delays because of Anglo-Saxons, or perhaps even more ancient English folk. The latter hitch came to Bishop's Stortford FC courtesy of the Herts I can vouch for the fact that they are

gated the site during early excavation work.

"They found the remains of an old post and some broken crockery." Gareth Stephens, chairman of the Stortford Supporters' Club, said. "That meant they wanted to do a fuller investigation." As it happened, the Trust identified what they believe was a settlement which pre-dated Roman times. Fab news for archaeologists; enough to start

local football supporters digging their own holes. Then there is the ongoing dispute over the size of the advertising boards currently displayed outside the site. The local authority deemed they were too big, causing a potential distraction to passing mo-

torists. As one of those motorists, assuming that Stortford's match Archaeological Trust, who investi- all extremely dull - but what does discovered it was, of course, at doesn't sound convinced.

itinerant footsteps.

Stephens rallies gamely when it is put to him that all the wandering. and waiting might prove not to be worthwhile. "Definitely not," he savs. "Maybe in two months' time we will be in our new ground and against Enfield was at Enfield, he this will all be behind us." But he

Golden and green look to Best's Exiles

With southern hemisphere imports at the heart of the former England coach's revolution at Sunbury. London Irish are bubbling again. By Chris Hewett

don Irish is the sporting equivalent of a bad pint of Guinness. "The club is supposed to cater for all ex-pats in the capital, but it doesn't," moans Mick Doyle, man of Blackrock and a former green-shirted Five Nations warrior of considerable repute. "I would despise us becoming like Richmond or Harlequins, who have almost no homegrown players left," says Ken Kennedy, a tough nut of a Lions hooker who played much of his club rugby - and consumed much of his black stuff - on the emerald acres of Sunbury-on-

The Exiles can do nothing right, it seems. After years of soaking up stick from the Little Englanders - "Why do we let them play in our league when they contribute nothing to our national side?" - they are now catching it in the neck from their own, who complain that, in their present manifestation, they contribute even less to Ireland. And on the face of it, the critics have a case. Instead of Jeremy Davidson, Mark McCall, David Humphreys and Ken O'Connell, Irish internationals ali, the Sunburyites have Ryan Strudwick, Brendan Venter, Steve Bachop and Rob Gallacher: two South Africans, one Western Samoan All Black and an Aussie. The only Cork among that lot is the one hanging from Mr Gallacher's hat.

Needless to say, it is not an argument that remotely impresses Dick Best. The Exiles' director of rugby is an old Harlequin of many years' standing. a former England coach and

TO A certain section of the about as Irish as a cucumber rugby community, the new Lon-sandwich. He is also one of rugby's most enthusiastic new age travellers, a hard-boiled pragmatist who recognises and revels in the realities of professional union.

Asked to carry out a root and branch reorganisation of the club's playing structure, he set about the task with customary ruthlessness; there would be no respect for tradition, no truck with nostalgia, no sentiment whatsoever.

And no regrets, either. When the club told me to restructure," recalls Best, "I said: 'Fine, but you should under-

'The Little Englanders probably don't know this but there are 19 English-qualified players in the squad'

stand that the Irish Rugby Union is on the case and that you're going to lose a lot of personnel'. Basically, the Irish blackmailed their players into going back home. It was the old 'Play here or we won't pick you' tactic and it meant that a whole recruitment link had effectively been severed.

"I had two choices: I could either attempt to pick up existing Premiership players who had fallen out of contract or I could go looking overseas. I opted for the latter

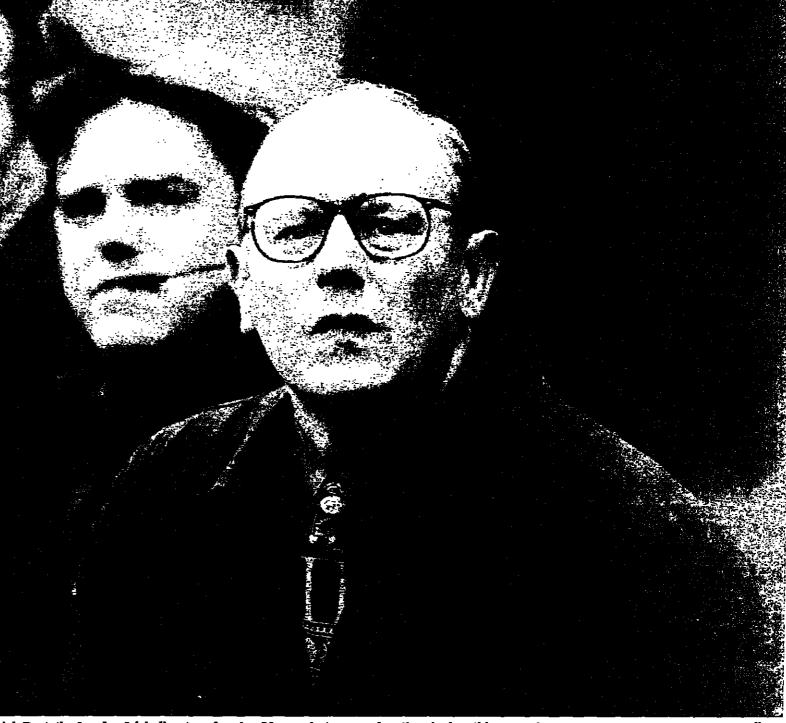
Armed with what he de-

the southern hemisphere market place and bought in bulk. Venter, the former Springbok centre from the high veld of the Free State and an "absolute phenomenon" in the considered opinion of the coach, was among the first to take the bait, followed by a stack of fel-Super 12ers; Simon Berridge, Jake Boer and Kevin Putt from South Africa, Jarrod Cunningham and Michael Howe from New Zealand, Best habitually describes these reinforcements as "the cavalry" or the "full metal jacket" and confidently expects them to establish London Irish as a genuine Premiership power.

That confidence appears well placed. Successive victories over Harlequins (sheer bliss for Best and his old coaching mucker, Andy Keast) and Richmond have given Conor O'Shea's side a threatening air and another two points against Newcastle, the inconsistent champions, at Sunbury this afternoon would send Irish into Tuesday night's crunch encounter at Northampton on a high of unprecedented altitude.

"It's a big period for us, cer-

tainly, but we're much better equipped to cope with the demands," says Best. "We could now put out a second team infinitely superior to anything available to us last season and that is indicative of the increased competition for places. Take Isaac Fea'unati, for instance. He was far and away our best forward last season, to the extent that we depended almost totally on his ability to



Dick Best, the London Irish director of rugby: 'No one, but no one, has thrashed us this season'

much deeper, that dependency has gone. Isaac is a little low on confidence after recovering from a very bad knee injury, so we're not rushing him back. A year ago, we'd have played him on one leg.

"Most of the new players had never even heard of London scribes as his "mental shopping carry the ball up. Now that the was made and they weren't at talent and that we'll have to national selectors banging on they end up co-habiting with the We're list", Best marched boldly into strength of the squad runs so all convinced that we were as keep pace with every other my door and that amazes me; relegation candidates. "We've more."

serious about our rugby as we claimed, but, once we started getting the odd signature on the odd contract, the recruitment process snowballed. Now I'd say I was 98 per-cent happy with what I have, although I'm very aware that the World Cup this autumn will be a watershed for Irish when the initial contact a lot of southern hemisphere

Premiership side by continuing to strengthen.

"What I'm not at all happy about is the absence of any interest from the England management. The Little Englanders probably don't know this, but there are 19 English-qualified players in the current squad. I don't get too many

for starters, I can't believe there are many better loosehead props available to Clive Woodward than Neal Hatley."

Best will be pleasantly surprised if his side pitches permanent camp in the top four -"If you bring in 20 players, they take time to knit together" and positively incandescent if planned for an honest mis table position this season an we're pretty much on course he says. "We're still missing th beat in too many games, bu we've stopped falling apart i the last quarter through lack fitness. No one, but no one, he thrashed us this season and don't think anyone will, eithe We're no soft touch. Not ar

Coaches face a day of destiny at Kingsholm

THE DREADED three Ms - By CHRIS HEWETT meaningless, mid-table and mediocrity – were always like- internationals who spent their ly to hover over too large a pro- entire club careers manacied Dunbar Premiership, simply because the professional clubs over-egged their own souffle by Hill left Bath for Gloucester insisting on a top-heavy top flight of 14 teams. Neither Gloucester nor Bath see it quite lambasted by frustrated supthat way, however. Mid-table they may be, mediocre they most certainly are, but it is hard to recall a more meaningful West Country derby than this afternoon's tribal set-to at King-

In short, it is win or bust for both sides; or, to be absolutely Richard Hill and Andy Robinson, two outstanding England

portion of this season's Allied together in common cause, are once again occupying the same storm-tossed boat, even though three long years ago. Retrayed by under-performing players, porters and crippled by misfortune, the former brothers in arms are now being asked some hard questions by their respective proprietors.

The potential ramifications of failing to come up with the right answers between 2pm and 3.30 today are too painful to accurate, both coaches, contemplate. If Robinson ap-

parture of his closest boardroom ally, Tony Swift - Hill is not exactly in the pink. A particularly vocal section of the Kingsholm congregation holds him personally responsible for dri-ving Phil Greening, the England hooker, out of Gloucester and there is much talk of an uneasy relationship with both Dave Sims, the club captain, and Tom Walkinshaw, the club owner. Defeat for either side will

Andrew Brownsword, Bath's multi-millionaire backer, is

successive Premiership de- that, with Swift gone, now ex- ters play in tandem on the feats, a 50-point shafting at ists between the dressing room flanks and, most importantly, Swansea and the abrupt de- and the boardroom. The senior players will defend the popular Robinson with every last breath in their body, but they need to start punching their weight if they are to see him through the most precarious few weeks of his professional career.

For the moment Robinson insists that the solution to his side's problems must come from within. It is the time-honoured Bath way - slam the door shut on the outsiders, lay leave the coach dangerously ex- the issues bare and come out fighting - and to that end. Robinson has picked the meanest, nastiest band of slit-eyed known to be contemplating the gum-slingers at his disposal. pears the less secure of the two appointment of a director of Mark Regan returns at hooker.

- he has just presided over five rugby to fill the yawning chasm Richard Webster and Eric Peappointment of a director of Mark Regan returns at hooker,

Jon Callard relieves Matt Perty of the No 15 shirt, not just because of his goal-kicking but because his ability to mix it with

"It had to be done," the coach explained yesterday. "It's no reflection on Matt, who is a fabulous player, and it is nothing against Mike Catt's kicking. either. Mike remains a very good kicker and we won seven of our first eight league games with him performing that role. But we have to go back to Jon for this one and the whole squad understand the reasons why. He is our best kicker and we need someone on the pitch saying: 'This is the way we're

store Nathan Carter to the back-row equation in place of Kingsley Jones, the former Wales captain who ruptured an Achilles tendon at Wasps last Sunday. Hill prefers Mark Mapletoft to Simon Mannix at stand-off and Scott Benton to Ian Sanders at scrum-half, while Neil McCarthy gets a start at hooker ahead of Chris Fortey. Philippe Saint-André.

the inspirational Frenchman,

has recovered from a thigh

strain and plays on the left

Saint-André gives the Cherry and Whites so many attacking options that they go into a blind panic every time he is late for training: hence their determination to expand their pool They should do so this after-

ing in women's tennis.

freshed after a six-week break.

ground. "Of course! Who

wouldn't be," she said. "Tve

been there at the top and want

I want to be the best again. My

win a Grand Slam, to have fun

Gloucester, meanwhile, re- of wings by signing Tom Beim, noon, though. "We cannot affor one of the very few successful to fail," said Matt Dawson, the England tourists in New England scrum-half, with the Zealand last summer, from Sale. Beim, a Kingsholm old boy

> who moved north in 1996, is expected to agree a two-year deal over the weekend. There are no such insecuri-

> ties at Northampton these days: with world-class talents like Pat Lam and Freddie Mendez playing at something approaching Test pitch, the Saints are good value for their elevated position in the Premiership table. A year ago, when the Midlanders were still incapacitated by their own inconsistency, few would have

confidence of a man who know his side are on a hot streak. Despite having batches Test players, we have never fi

ished higher than fourth in th league," added Dawson, who: occasional goal-kicking a counted for Gary Teichmann record-chasing Springboks . Twickenham last month.

"Now we have the chance going joint top with Leiceste but we have to keep remindir ourselves that we have we nothing. Sale stand in our w: this weekend, just as they do the cup next Saturday. If we f: in either game, that unde backed them to win at Sale. achievers' tag will continue

Outcry over tennis girls' diets

Australian academy launches inquiry after players

THE PRESTIGIOUS Australian Institute of Sport has launched an investigation into claims by a group of women tennis players that they were forced into unsuitable diet regimes as part of their training, which left arriving on her scholarship, I am writing to express my some with eating disorders.

The allegations involve 34 former scholarship holders at and began to pick on her for the Institute, beginning in 1981 but including some who were being coached at Canberra as recently as three years ago.

One former national junior champion, Esther Knox, lost over half a stone in nine days on what she described as "a semi-starvation diet" consisting of just fruit for breakfast and lunch, and small portions of meat and salad for dinner.

But the worst moment of her internship, in 1992-93, came when her coach, Peter Campbell, videoed his slimmed-down charge in action and, Ms Knox alleges, focussed the camera on her legs, "to show me how much better I looked. I was completely humiliated."

Another player, Brenda Catton, has recalled how pressure to lose weight from her coach at the Institute led to her "vomiting before each match" in-

tell of eating disorders. By Jake Lynch in Sydney two stone in weight. Soon after AIS scholarship holders' camp.

she says, coach Ray Ruffels would call her "fat and slow" being unable to lift weights. She developed anorexia nervosa, and later bulimia, which took 10 years to overcome.

anorexia was to please Ray," Ms Catton told the Sydney Daily Telegroph. "They were always on to me about losing weight." Mr Ruffels, who left the AIS in 1990, denied calling her fat, though he conceded that he tried to instil a "disciplined" ap-

proach to diet. sponded to similar pressures by they are called fat. I'm glad she going on eating binges. The first did go out and eat because if she her parents knew of the problem, after two years of her scholarship, was when the AIS sent her a memo to the family Linda Cassell, who is now a home, dated February 28, 1995. after a tournament in Ballarat,

In it, her coach at the Institute, Chris Kachel, wrote: "Fol-stress on players' appearance lowing the results of your in the tennis outlits than the

supreme disappointment.

"It is unacceptable for an AIS tennis athlete to have a skinfold reading of 181, when the expected range is approximately 80-100." The memo confirmed the suspension of scholarship "The only reason I developed entitlements, including an allowance worth A\$300 per week for financial support while playing in overseas tournaments. though the player herself had been told verbally, in front of other trainees.

Her mother, Sandra Reid. said: "Renée had three options – anorexia, bulimia or eat – Another girl, Renée Reid, re-that's what happens to girls if chose the other alternatives she would be dead."

> Another former trainee, rum, recalled hearing her fellow players, in 1981-82, vomiting in the bathrooms under a regime which, she said, placed more

"They lived on lettuce, they jogged in glad wrap by night." Ms Reid complained that, when she was removed from the programme, she had proved herself capable of beating other, slimmer trainees on court.

The allegations have brought to a head long-standing criticisms of AIS methods, widely admired and emulated in other sports, being applied to tennis players. Margaret Court, an Australian sporting legend for her feats as the only woman to win the Grand Slam of all four major championships in the same calendar year, said the game at the top level required individual coaching.

"I believe champions are very sensitive," she declared. "When they get into squad coaching at an early age, they get walked over, they all look like robots. I wouldn't have survived if I had gone into the AIS."

Australia's current big name tennis stars are both men -Mark Philippoussis, who has always been coached by his father, albeit with financial 1981, when she had lost nearly physical testing at last week's artual level of performance: support from the AIS, and

Patrick Rafter, a "late developer" who only reached his top 10 status well after he started working with a full-time in-

In a media release, the AIS points to more modest successes by female graduates of its coaching system, with Annabelle Elwood, who achieved a world ranking of 55, and Alicia Molik, who rose during her internship from 660 to

163, being the most notable. The Institute's director, John Boultbee, said neither he nor his coaching staff could be blamed for Australia's failure to produce outstanding women tennis players to set alongside world-beating alumni from programmes in athletics, water sports and a host of other fields.

were "accountable on issues

such as fitness and discipline."

Mr Boultbee plans to interand take it as it comes, and be well prepared for every match." view journalists, officials, former coaches and players to get Hingis does not have much to the bottom of the matter. But time to settle in the Hopman Cup team event. After playing he added: "Surely Australian taxpayers wouldn't expect against the defending champcoaches to stand by and allow athletes not to achieve fitness levels at the expense of other committed athletes who can meet those criteria." Despite the help of a range of professionals, trainees themselves

ions, the Slovak Republic, on Tuesday, she faces Davenport on Thursday as Switzerland takes on the United States. "It's going to be a good match for sure, with the number one and two players in the world," she said. "I had a great

MARTINA HINGIS is deter-BY MARK PIERSON

mined to use the Hopman Cup mixed teams event in Perth as enport), so we'll see what's a means to regain her top rankgoing to happen." Hingis remains unbeaten in

Hingis refreshed and

aiming for top again

The 18-year-old lost the top singles on her two previous visranking to the American, Lindits to the Hopman Cup, with say Davenport, in October but seven wins. Last year she later beat her to take the Chase missed the event and feels that title in New York. Now rewas a mistake. "I played Sydney and won she is anxious to recover lost

Melhourne last year, but I came to Australia too late," Hingis admitted, "The Hopman Cup is great preparation for the Australian Open."

to have the feeling back again. Hingis partners the newother aims for this year are to comer Ivo Heuberger in the mixed doubles. When the German-speaking Hingis previously partnered the Frenchspeaking Marc Rosset they had to converse in English, and that sometimes led to misunderstandings. "We don't have any language problems," Hingis said. "We know each

other very well from juniors." Play in the only international team competition to feature a mixed doubles combination gets under way today when France and Zimbabwe meet in finish to '98 (by beating Dav- a qualifying match.

featuring the French Ope champions, Carlos Moya at Arantxa Sanchez Vicario South Africa, Australia and ther France or Zimbabw Group B is made up of the Un ed States, Switzerland, Swedi and the Slovak Republic.

After a two-month brea from tennis, Michael Chang back in action at the Australi: men's hardcourt championsh

Knee and wrist injuricaused Chang's ranking slump to 29 by the end of 19: the first time he finished a ve outside the top 10 since 199:

"My off-season has been a . tie bit longer, I have had a cc ple of months off now," Cha: said. "I took some weeks off in to rest and recuperate. I stru gled a lot injury-wise last ye I think injuries hurt me mo than anything else."

Chang is seeded sixth in t tournament that starts on Mc day in Adelaide. The top se is the US Open champic Patrick Rafter, who is follow by Thomas Enqvist and Gu tavo Kuerten.

PUNTERS' GUIDE

Ioni's Tip can show ne's no lightweight

he former top jump jockey teve Smith Eccles analyses oday's Mandarin Chase



parkling Cone: Teeton ill's stable-companion won Towcester on his repearance but has been set mammoth task under topeight.

ightsaidfred: Winner at umoton and Folkestone but is is a step up in class.

ounds Fyne: Second at ewbury last time and will preciate this longer trip. ily Road: Does not look

pable of making the step up

grade. nan: Not good enough on

is season's form.

but he will find this tougher than the maiden chase he won at Hereford. Kilmington: Finally got his

Ask Antony: Improving sort

act together at Plumpton but is up against it here. Toni's Tip: A live prospect off bottom weight. Only a novice

but he jumps well and is sure Conclusion: The bottom

weight, TONTS TIP, who is a careful jumper and has conditions in his favour, looks the best choice. Sounds Fyne is the main danger.

LINGFIELD

0: TEAR WHITE posses loads of pace and can e advantage of his handy draw. Simon Whitworth's unt made all the running er course and distance last nth.

30 40: Magic Arrow hails m a yard with high qualiinmates, while Wain untain seems sure to w improvement now that runs over a distance his ligree indicates should ve suitable. But the solid n on this surface has n shown by SIMPLY .GICAL.

r: WHITE PLAINS made progress to finish runnerto Meteor Strike here on sday and time may show

: to be solid form. : TOPTON is well treat-

in the form he showed to Love Academy in good e over course and dise in November and may have been readied for prize. Lycian could re the biggest threat.

UTTOXETER

: LISTEN TIMMY faces three rivals on his OOO

HYPERION'S

TV TIPS

2.25: COOL SPRING will be a stronger mare after her seasonal return at Chepstow and she can prove the point by reversing the form with the winner that day, Flying Gunner.

3.25: MCHATTIE was always travelling like a winner at Newcastle so he can be given the green light to take this under a penalty. The one to save on would be bumper winner Kiltulaa Lad, who should go well over this stayers' trip.

NEWBURY 2.15: A decent case can be

made for most of these, but the form of ASK ANTONY against two subsequent winners at Exeter is what catches the eye.

2.45: SANTABLESS is the value against form choice and likely favourite King's Road. The selection has done nothing wrong in win-

mpt to make it course 3.15: With the effectiveness of number four. Share Bold Gait on soft ground ions ran below par at unproven, it is worth taking dock and is the main the favourite on with CITY at on his earlier course HALL, a very game second on soft last month at Ascot.

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ecedent impresses

ERUS PRECEDENT day we would be stupid not to ished his claims for the run in it," Egerton said. "He is ph Hurdle at the Chel- good enough to run in it but I n Festival with a 10- would be staggered if he was success over the same good enough to win it." and distance yesterday. only defeat suffered by narlie Egerton-trained ut in four previous starts ite, Katarino, at Prest-'ark in November and nn is not confident of rson's runner.

umph. Both firms have Katarino flicted by the Triumph as their 8-1 favourite. There was backing yesterday for the Eddie Ö'Gradytrained Impulsive Dream for

g revenge on Nicky the Ladbroke Hurdle a week today. He is now 12-1 (from 14-1) will enter him for the with William Hill and the same th and at the end of the price (from 16-1) with Coral

FIRST SHOW

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Ladbrokes and William Hill

tend to agree, quoting Dangerus

Precedent at 25-1 for the Tri-

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Moorlah	8-1	7-1	7-1	B-1	9-1
Exec Decision	14-1	24	21	12-1	12-1
Flying Eagle	88-1	40-1	401	50-1	40-1

NEWBURY

HYPERION

12.45 Native Player (nb) 2.15 Ask Antony 1.15 Dantes Cavalier 2.45 Santabless 1.45 Tempestuous Lady 3.15 City Half

GOING: Soft (Heavy patches on Chase course). Left-hand course with long straights; stiff tences.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

El Course is SE of town near ASA. Revivery station (service from London, Paddington) edicine course. ADMISSION: Members \$14; Tattereals \$8; Silver Ping \$4 (OAPs half price). CAR PARK: Southmead £2, Plotto area £4, remainder free. ILLEADING TRAINERS: D Micholson 20-97 (205%), M Pipe 18-76 (211%), O Shen

wood 15-53 (28.3%). N Henderson 15-63 (161%).

III LEADING JOCKEYS: J Caborna 33-100 (33%), R Dunwoody 18-103 (155%), M A Fitzgerald 16-132 (12.1%). N Williamson 12-74 (16.2%). ## FAVOURITES: 136-349 (39%).

12.45 RACECOURSE CONFERENCE CENTRE NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £6,000 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,280

32P-21 COLLIER BAY (46) (0) (W E Sturt) J Old 9 11 6 O-P21P MY WARRIOR (44) (D) (Max G Worsley) M Campion 11 11 6 ... 8005-1 NRPPER REED (14) (D) (G Piper) R Simpton 9 11 6 13-233 CALON LAN (29) (CD) (H Brown) N Henderson 8 11 0 4-5446 SPOOPS MY GAME (46) (Easy Record Partnership) J Muline 8 to C....

BETTING: 10-11 Coster Bay, 9-2 Nipper Reed, 6-1 Native Player, 7-1 Kingafold Pet, 8-1 Calet Lan, 25-1 My Warrior, 33-1 Spool's My Game 1998: meeting abendoned due to waterlogging

FORM VERDICT

Nipper Reed will take all the beating if reproducing his Littgeter win here, but he has never quite been at his best here and the long home straight on this ground may just stratch his stamma. The most obvious alternative is Collier Bay but his jumping has been a bit sketchy to date and it could be worth taking a chance on NATIVE PLAYER (resp). Richard Rowels string has given clear indications that it is about to strike form and the selection had some good hurdles form to his name and apes well in soft around.

1.15 FURLONG CLUB HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £10,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £7,068

SIGP-3 GOLDEN SPRAKER (23) (CD) (Mis H Malland-Jones) H Handerson (2 1) 1) M.A. Filzpanak 222/5- MR PRESIDENT (294) (CD) (BF) (Francome & triends) V Soene 10 10 1 ... C Lievellyn

FORM VERDICT Fourth in Line could still be a step shead of the handicapper but he has not won over this trip and with the ground likely to be starting sapping he may struggle to get home. The soft ground is against most of the other runners and could be a problem for MOON DEVIL, but he has been so impressive on his two starts over C&D that he is given the vota.

LINGFIELD

HYPERION

Course is SE of fown on 82028. Station (served by London Victoria) adicins course

ADMISSION: Club & Family Enclosure StD. CAR PARK: Club £3; remainder free.

FIVE-YEAR STATISTICS

I LONG DISTANCE RUNNERS: Dancing Rio (240) and Love Academy (310) have

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Robert's Toy (1240), Solo Spirit (110), Diamond Geazer

12.40 COME WINTER RACING APPRENTICES CLAIMING STAKES (F) £3,000 1m 4f Penalty Value £2,151

BETTING: erens Alsahib, 5-2 Mystagogue, 10-1 Dionys, Robert's Toy, Dawn Treeder, 16-1 The

FORM VERDICT

it is hard to get away from ALSAHIB who has recent winning form at this level and

1.10 BOOK EARLY FOR VALENTINES DAY HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £4,000 6f Penalty Value £3,022

FORM VERDICT

MUKARRAS is open to more improvement on this surface and, despite his draw,

1.40 BARRY DENNIS BOOKMAKERS HANDICAP C4

(CLASS D) £6,500 5f Penalty Value £4,507

SRR Thiles, 25-1 Hoppit 1998: Return Of The Mac 8 & R Studholme 33-1 (M R Bosley) drawn (2) 8 ren

handled the surface well enough on his course debut last time.

2.40 White Plains

3.40 Diamond Geezer

3.10 Topton

12.40 Alsahib

1.40 Tear White

2.10 Simply Magical

DRAW ADVANTAGE: LOW.

STALLS: Inside except 5f (outside).

77-334 (231%), R Cochrane 69-400 (173%).

FAVOURITES: 685-2051 (334%).

(3.40), The Sifk Thief (visored, 12.40).

10-1 Abteal, Dencing Jack, 14-1 others

1998: Durable George 4 8 7 J Quinn 9-1 (J Bridger) drewn (49 8 nan

rie, 12-1 Helf Tome, Rise 'N Steine 1998: Tangerine Plyer 3 9 4 P Roberts (3) 13-8 fax (J Berry) drawn (3) 6 ran

FORM GUIDE

Ruzzen: Letest turl wins gained over 6f. Creditable 2-length 4th to Soaled here (6f) in November and enjoys 4th pull. Led for 2t in stronger race won by Primo Lare (6f) here lest time Soalead: Made at for two wins here in November and drawn on wide outside when

Souland: Made all for two wins here in November and drawn on wide outside when unplaced to Primp Lara in a stronger race here last time. Leading chance Manigue: Won on fur! (6t) here in May and later scored on AM at Wolverhampion. Returns from a rest and has a fine chance from the reside draw. Tear White: Duel winner at Brighton and also successful on this surface with Alig Dancer a close 4th, Good 3rd to that read on the revised terms need time. Obvious claims science Ridger Only win last year gened at Policestone. Latest run behind Primo Lara probably wanted but finds the minimum trip too charp nowadays. Squire Corrier Stattemate of Souland Had a great spet in 1997 (aix wins) and creditable 3rd to Many Jane at Southwell (6t) it days ago. Can be fanced at his best Hatil Toner Prefers a stiffer test at 5f (three wins at Sondown) and only 7th behind Tear White over course and detance. Was 4th here yesterdey. Rise 11 Shine: Gehred only win hare in February but feded last time when 6th to Tear White. Meets that head only 5th better terms.

VERDICT: TEAR WHITE has always preferred a sharp course and looks ready to

The relative of the property of the property of the property of the all-weather accer following his win from Friendly Brave last month. He ran up to that form on the course last Tursday and his early pace may prove too hot for David Chapmania pair Seated and Squire Corrie. The saver bet goes on Mangue, who is capable on his day and a fresh horse after a four-month rest.

is fancied to best Stazing and Village Native.

Equitrack surface; left-hand, sharp undulating course.

1.10 Sizzilng

GOING: Standard.

BETTING: 3-1 Dantes Cavaller, 7-2 Golden Spierner, 9-2 Moon Devil, Mr Conductor, 5-1 Fourth In Line, 12-1 Cyberg De Beautel, 14-1 Sound Revellie, 25-1 Mr President

1.45 TREVOR SALMON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS C) £6,500 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £4,782

grand of the transfer of the second s

	Duron out trajes : see y
10 ti	TEMPESTUCIUS LADY (11) (0) (láx E Roberts) N Henderson 8 ft 5_M A Plograni
#1.21	POSTANS MATE (21) (C) (c) Parish N Turston Diseas 6 11 4C Licenter
275.70	THE ISSUED I ROAD (20) BAS L Flots D Micholson 7 11 4
RC-Rt	VERNUAN SAFIOR (SO) (Ms.) Evron & R Evron) Mrs. J Physin 5 11 4
P44-135	EXACT (FR) (28) (Ford Page Racing) () Michelson (10 12Mr (1 Hanks) (2) (
EDELTA:	of the Att Med Ales C Heles Mes C Hicker 7 to 12 Program of Mogrand (7
0570-	RISING TROUT (247) (N Ellott R Bockler 6 10 12 B Power
00.70	SUPER NOVA (14) NV E Dudievi C Hemsley 8 10 12
00/5-P	TIME TO PARLEZ (24) (Mrs J Strange) C Draws 8 10 12

- 10 declared Liphera Lord, 14-1 Exact, 33-1 others

3-52 UPHAM LORD (30) (BF) (The Brushmakers) P Hobbs 8 10 12

FORM YERDICT

Bosume Mate has the best form but with a lot of his stable companions running ou of pull at the moment he looks worth opposing with TEMPESTOUS LADY who may well be up to giving weight away all round. She looks the safest choice as she acts in the ground, stays and her stable could hardly be in better form. The one to keep an eye on with regard to the future is fileling Troot who showed plently in bumpers.

2.15 MANDARIN HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £15,000 3m 2f 110yds Penzity Value £10,866

62-42 SOUNDS FORE (35) (C) (S Paler O'Suleary) | Fizzlands in 0 102-24 A Rizgenid block yellow cross-belts, yellow cap

0-231 FOLLY ROAD (18) (D) (Bertahle Components) | D Williams 8 10 11 atrant, black cap 221/81 ASK ANTONY (18) (G Bond) P Nichola 9 10 4 Eght blue, black baces, emilets and dismitted on cap 403U1 (GLMINGTON (19) (D) (H T Pelham) J Gifford 10 10 0...... 382018 TOHE'S TIP (7) (Mrs T S Tipper) F Murphy 7 10 C.

weleter 10st True handeren walntet Kliminoton 9st 13th, Ton's Tio 9st 12th. BETTRIG: 11-4 Sparking Come, 3-1 Ask Antony, 5-1 Folly Road, 6-1 Sounds Fyon, 8-1 King logion, Rightsaidted, 10-1 Tont's Tip, 14-1 Oben

FORM GUIDE

Spaniding Cona: Goes well on soft ground, as demonstrated by easy win at Towcester (3m1f) last month. 8th higher, but on the upgrade and should go close Riightasildtred: Lightly-raced as-pointer. Won handicaps (3m2), good to soft) at Plumpton and Fortwell in November under an arrestaur. Much stiffer task here, but capable of better than he has shown so far and has a protessional jockey Sounds Pyne: Won over 2m4f hare (soft) last term, but now shapes as if the longer trip is required. Fair efforts when beaten off this mark last two starts

Polly Road: In excellent form, with clear-cut wins in 5-runner races at Warwick and Followstone, both over this trip on soft ground. 5tb rise does not rule him out Oben: Has not won for two years. 2. — and, on heavy. Not at his best this term, and on that form 5to lower mark will not be enough to give him a winning chance Ask Antony: Ex-pointer 31/4 lengths third to Edmond at Eleter, winner and second (Holdinglose) both successful since, 1-3 winner of maiden chase at Hereford next fine. Will be at home under the conditions. A leading contender Inction: Back to best with 8-length win from Jurassic Classic at Plumpton (3m11/4)

heavy) isst month. She higher now and needs to show improvement.
Tond's Tipo Shapes like a stayer and acts on heavy. Won at Newcastle (novices) one
month ago but ran poorly latest start. Well in on some of 1997/98 linsh form

VERDICT: With five decisive lest-time-out winners in the field, this looks a really competitive renewal. The pick of them may well be FOLLY ROAD, whose trainer was orig-helly elming him at a top handicap in Ireland after his impressive wins over this top on rd on his last two starts. From top stables, Spariding Cone and Asix Antony clearly have planty going for them as well.

2.45 CHALLOW HURDLE (Grade 1) (CLASS A) BBC1 525,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £15,775

342-1 ALL GONG (22) (A Speciment) N Handesson 5-11-7 white, orange and white stoped cap Sti-12 KINGT'S ROAD (29) (0) (Mrs N. Jones) N Tweston-Davies 6 Ti 7.... der's blue and white stripes on body, red and white hooped cap 21-113 RIC'S KING (22) (U) (SF) (Gesculpine Brookes Perthership) J Tuck 7 11 7 . R Bellem) purple, yellow chewors, purple steeves, yellow cap, purple ster SANTARLESS (19) (D S Arrold & D J Goodsteen) M Pilmen 6 11 7..... ements green and purple (railyed), shipped shakes, quadrated cap STORM OF GOLD (15) (D) (S W Carter) C Mann 5 11 7

dark green and white stripes, black and white striped elections - 5 declared -

SETTING: 5-4 King'a Road, 3-1 Stone Of Gold, 5-1 Santabless, 13-2 Ric's King, 7-1 Ali Goog FORM GUIDE

All Gong: No star in bumpers but impressive hurdles witner by 1 /s lengths from Seau (Rick King beater another 8) over 2mil on good to soft at Chellenham King's Road: Leading bumper horse in the mud lest term. Won at Chepsion (2m5i) on hurding debut before melding highly-promising Barton dig deep at Sandon good ground, which is probably taster than is ideal for him. The one to best Rich King: Won at Warwick and Chepatow (2m5), soft, led run-in to best hish Bar

in November, 2militrip and latse pace were no help when 3rd to All Going Santabless: Looks the part and has impressed with wins at Cheltenham (2m, good to soft from Hoh Invader) and Plumpton (2m4), heavy). Very promising Storm Of Gold; Ex-Irish, Has won both starts in Britain, both at around 2m4) on soft surface, at Haydock and Utimeter. Pather wayward on the run-in at letter

VERDICT: He taces four promising opponents but KING'S ROAD has the best form, is proven on heavy ground and stays this trip really well. He has to be the selection, with Santabless Early to prove his toughest rival

3.15 ROCKING HORSE NURSERY H'CAP BBC1 2053-4 MOORISH (22) (D) (A Fitzpairck) N Triston-Dames 9 12 0 ... nd and gray districts, ned sleeves, gray armiets, ned cap 12-42 CRY HALL (14) (D) (Mrs R F Key & Mrs V Ward) Mrs V Ward 5 11 10 W Williamson beign, light blue boop, armiets and cap 0-455 REAL ESTATE (28) (D) (Mrs. J Mouto) D Nicholson 5 11 0... emeratel green, white stars, emerate green cap, white star 118-20 (20:CUTIVE DECISION (35) (D) (E Guiner & M Krysztolfak) P Micholis 5 10 8 J Tizzand cad and white stopes, dark blue alseves, white store and stors on cap 000-11 BOLD GAIT (36) (CD) (Mrs I Philips) J Panshawe 8 10 8 navy blue, white diamond and sleeves, check cap 4'81- CHESRYMORE (352) (CD) (Fi Histoine) Mrs J Planan 8 10 4

red, white epaulets, white slees - 7 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Flying Eagle 9st 5tb. SETTING: 5-4 Bold Gait, 11-4 City Hell, 6-1 Real Estate, 7-1 Cherrystone, 8-1 Mocrieti, 12-1 Exe utive Decision, 50-1 Flying Eagle

light blue and arange diamonts, light blue sleeves, fight blue cap, arange star 4064-U FYINIS EAGLE (7) (D) (T F Maycod) R Simpson 8 10 0

FORM GUIDE

Moortstr: Goes well on soft ground. Last three starts have been over 2:n6f+ and he has performed creditably, so the 2:m11 trip here is a worry. City Half: Second in Trumph Hurdle at Chettenham. Made Toto Toecato pull out all the stops at Ascott (2:m, soft) lanest start this term. Game and should run well stops at Ascat (2m, soft) latest start this tarm. Game and should run well Real Estate: Acts on soft, Improved to win at Ascot in November and was creditable fifth to Pole Prospect at Sandown. Way find one or two too good again. Executive Decision: Ex-trish. Hung and was run out of it late on at Chepstow (2m, soft) on Breish debut. Well beaten behind Wahlba Sands here next time Bold Gatt: Twice winner here in November, easily on first occasion and by ½ length from Tutchev (Potar Prospect third) 17 days later. That form has worked out really well. Raised another 13tb. Soft ground may prove a bigger drawback. Cherrymone: Lightly raced. Progressive last term to win notice events here and at Wincantan (2m, soft). More improvement needed on this handicap debut. Plying Eagler: Ended last season below form and is out of the handicap proper today. However, has done very well on the Flat in the interim. Unproven on soft

VERDICT: The two that stand out are CITY HALL and Bold Galt. The latter remains an interesting contender in handicaps despite his hits up the weights, but he is un-proven on soft ground. There are no such doubts about City Hall.

TESTERS NEW DISCOVERY MAIDEN STAKES C4 er: Best Famous and Raylk over 1m2f here in November and then 3rd in

(D) £5,250 3YO 1m 2f Penalty Value £3,761 606- BAMBOO GARDEN (USA) (81) (J Tse) G Chung 9 0 M Tehbut 2 yellow and light blue shipes, emerated green elevers, beinge cap, noyal blue dian 000- IMDRGO BAY (80) (Normandy Developments), 5 Dow 9 0 _________. white, light blue trate diamond, sleever and cap MAGIC APROW (USA) (K New Partnership) J Noseda 9 0 _______. J S black and emerated green (halved), alsones revented, quantiered cap 04- PERTEMPS CRAIC (21) (Persemps Group Ltd) A Newcombe 9 0R Studinshme (5) 4 O- SATRIA (57) (Sultan Ahmad Shah) Mas G Keleway 9 0

Indigo Bay: Has contested some strong maidens on turf and was sessed down in the soft ground on latest start when 7th to Cash at Nottingham (fm)
Magic Arrow: Newcomer by Delensive Play and probably best watched with an ap-

Pertemps Craic: Led for 6) when a 10-length 4th to Miss Take at Wolverhampton (fm) on second start. Likely to find some of these too good Satria: Never showed from a slow start in Doncaster maiden won by Ettrick in Noverniber. May be capable of better

to Nowhere To Exit at Brighton.

Wein Mountain: Uneasy lavourite on debut here (7th to Philatelic Lady over 1m) and again easy to back at Southweil (7f) when 2nd to Rich Ballerina (hung left). Unfuwain colt sure to be suited by this longer trip

a staying on 6th of 15 to Buona Sera. Longer trip today may help ime: Pulssance filly-newcomer likely to need the run with an apprentice up Nadisha: Well-bred newcomer and a daughter of Rainbows For Life. Stable to be respecial so a close look at the betting advised Quick Silver; Soon in trouble and tailed off behind Tricks here (7f) three weeks ago.

here on debut. Can improve and bred to be suited by this longer trip

and the fity Simply Magical. Both are trying the trp for the first time and Wain Mountain will find the ten furlongs more suitable after his plugging-on second to Rich Ballerina at Southwell with the third ten lengths editift. The race is a week affair so Satrist

2.40 TAITTINGER NEW YEAR HANDICAP (CLASS C) E9,000 added 1m 4f Penalty Value £6,419

rayel blue, yellaw exautets, hooped steeves, red cap WHITE PLAINS (4) (C) (D) (N Shields) K Burke 697..... white, emerald green epaulets and saws on sleeves, yellow exp LAST CHRISTIMAS (121) (Southern Counties Finance) J Jenkins 4 9 5 ... R Cochrane 11

yellow, black seet, white stewer, black and white quantered cap 2223- FIRST MASTER (24) (C) (Traces Lucky Pahe) Mee G Keleway 4 9 0.P Fredericks (7) 3

rad, white braces, checked steeves and cap - 12 declared -

BETTING: 5-1 First Master, 11-2 White Plains, 13-2 Swam Hunter, 7-1 Anal-10, Be Wanned, 8-1 Papua, Night City, Prince Danzig, 10-1 Lest Christmas, 12-1 Harlit, 14-1 others 1998: Toujours Riviers 8 9 11 G Sardwell 7-1 (J Pasce) Green (5) 11 ran

Swan Hunter: Glast three wirs gained at Wolverhampton and 2nd there to Primary Colours lest time. May just struggle on this fester track Perpuse Has disappointed over hurdes though has an outstanding chance on his New bury 2nd to Alls Alloi over this trip at Newbury in May, First attempt on this surface

Be Warned: Decert form of late over Im (head 2nd to Jay-Owe-Two at Wolverhamptori) and a staying-on 2nd to Falled 15 Hit lest time. Thed over extra half-mile loday White Platins: Dual winner on this course in 1997 and showed he stayed today's trip with a Southwell win last February and with a creditable 2nd to Meteor Strike here last Analy-Kor Latest AW run resulted in a win here from Paronomasia over 1m2t. Hasn't

stranger race behind Danzino over same trip. In goof form and appears to stay this Harris: Both was gained on this course but not as effective on but. Has failed to click Dencing Rio: Enjoyed a good early campaign last year and contested amateurs' race last time. Stays the trip but others preferred

Prince Denzig: Kept on to best Muhandis here (1m5i) lest time and thus notch his sixth course win. May struggle in this stronger grade Galagino: Hurdles winner at Fortwell in October and successful at Goodwood (1m2)

two months earlier. Has won three times on AW (once here) and has claims at his best VERDICT: Gay Kelleway has a strong hand with ANAK-KU and First Master. The former has done most of his winning over ten furlongs but he promises to stay and usually runs well when fresh. Last Clinistope looks well handicapped on his early form with Sarry Hills and a recent run over hundles will have put him straight. Karl Buries pair Night City and White Plains both ran well on the course on Tuesday and Harik

3.10 LADBROKE ALL-WEATHER TROPHY HANDICAP (FINAL) (B) £15,000 7f Penalty Value £10,699

red, gray cross-balts 00205- ROBO MAGIC (22) (C) (A D Green & partners) L Montaque Hall 7 9 8 Martin Dwyer 2 dark trius, light blue braces, armiels and star on cap

white, emergid great epoclets and stars on alleures, yellow cap 25000- PERICLES (4) (0) (M J Spencer) Mas G Kelleway 5 9 2 ______ P Frederictus (7) 16 B

clark bits and yellow stripes, yellow sleaves, dark bits seams, yellow cap

— 16 declared —

— 16 declared —

BETTING: 6-1 Lycian, Riffit, 6-1 Best Owest, Love Academy, Topton, 11-1 Stica Blamica, 12-1 Big
Ben, Mester Titcle, Shades Of Love, 14-1 Robo Biggir, Threadmeedis, 16-1 others

1968: Speedy Classic 9 10 0 A Clark 7-2 (M Heaton-Elie) drawn (7) 8 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Threadneedle: Front-numer first run for Karl Burke when beating Barbason over im here in December. Below form at Southwell since. This trip may be too short Sitica Blanka: Equitrack debut and back to form when neck second to Lycian three weeks ago. Drawn wide today and is not the most consistent. Ratkle: Mostly below his best in 1986 and revised weights with Threadneedle do not look enough to turn over 17% length deficit from ther meeting here last month. Robo Misglic Front-numer. Effective at 51 and also did well over 71 when touched off here in November. Decent fifth to Lycian when itm stretched his stamina. Rittli: Most of his form is over spirit distances, but was also successful over this trip here in December. Sit fairly treated on his turn form Laurally held up. Lows Academyr: In secretion form, whining three times this whiter. Held by Topton on form here in November but performed a lot better than him last time out. Willethinder: Registered four-timer over course and distance last winter. Given summer break and has achieved nothing on either nun since. Others preferred Topton: 71 whiner in good style here and at Southwell in November. Met trouble in running most two starts, stapping very well, but ran poorly here three days ago. Butrintos Won over course and distance for this apprentice in December by a neck. 4th higher here. Well behind on debut at Southwell in Rovember in December by a neck. 4th higher here. Well behind on debut at Southwell were uninspiring, and apparently creditable effort in between came when well beasen lacing a stiff task. Shades Of Lower Won at 71 here in November. Fourth to Riffet of revised mark following month, and 15 drop in the weights show the rating a stiff task. Shades Of Lower Won at 71 here in November. Fourth to Riffet of revised mark following month, and 15 drop in the weights show the spain today. The shade excuses with wide draw both starts since, but has a wide berth again today. Perforder: Relating in the weights show the recommend on that basis.

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uneq.

VERDICT: A competitive Final which should be run at a strong pace. That will help LYCIAN whose form so far is over slightly longer trips and he is selected to beat the bang in-form Love Academy. Topton would have been greatly respected were it not for his display here three days ago. Mileter Tricky is another to note.

3.40 BOOK EARLY FOR VALENTINES DAY HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) £4,000 of Penalty Value £3,022

— 13 060am0 —

— Piendly Brave, 9-4 Present in Correct, 6-1 Sharp Irap, 13-2 Ivory's Grab Hire, Ramoey Hope, 10-1 Acid Yest, Diamond Geaze, Mister Raider, 14-1 others
1998: Matassawer A 10 0 14 Wigham 10-3 (M Saunders) drawn (2) 8 ran

FORM VERDICT

A real whose turn is it today? handleap contested by infrequent winners, headed by Acid Test who ran well when third here yesterday and should go well again from a decent draw. But it may be worth looking for a bit of value with the blinkered-first-time DIAMOND GEDZER, who is potentially well treated now and for whom there have been excuses on both his starts here.



en 6th of 7 to Conflict at Leicester (7f) in October

Scraggy's Dreem: Faced stiff task on only start when 10th of 11 (beaten 21 langths)

Fametta: Beelen in nursaries though set too much to do on latest start here (7) when

Needs to do a lot bester today Simply Megical: Creditable 4th to Love Diamonds in nursery here (im) and then de-moted for causing interference after beating Daunted on a return visit. Fine chance if Sky City: About 4 lengths behind Wain Mountain when unplaced to Philatelic Lady

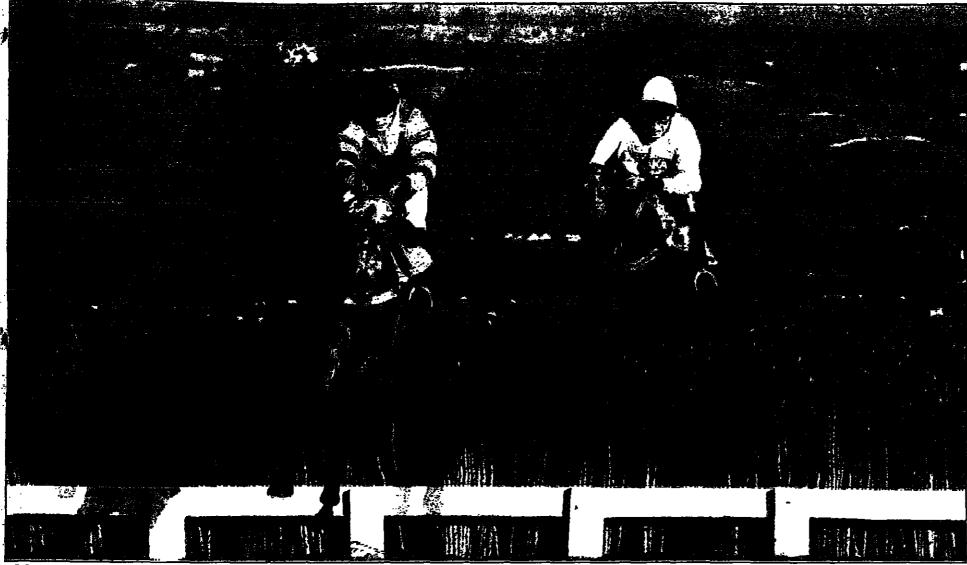
Swan Lake: Has shown some ability in France and not besten far in two 1m races in VERDICT: On form this looks a straight fight between the colt WAIN INCUNTAIN

black and white stripes, white aleayes, black spots, black cap 02020 - GALAPINO (J36) (C) (D) (Gendele Partnership) M Channon 6 8 6.....Candy Morris 6

FÖRM GUIDE

Night City: Acts well on this surface and best foujours fivers less month. Felled to confirm the form with the 5th (Meteor Strike) last Tuesday but remains a leading con-

least Christmass: Formerly with Berry Hills and fine chance on his best form. Second to Star Crystal over further at Saliebury in June and sharper for a recent hurdes run



Adrian Maguire and Baronet (left) get the better of a long duel with Jamie Osborne on Him Of Praise at Cheltenham yesterday

Right time for Topton

WHEN STEPHEN Winstanley, BY GREG WOOD the owner of Teeton Mill, found Venetia Williams's phone number permanently engaged a Mandarin Handicap Chase at couple of weeks ago, he asked Newbury this afternoon. It is her afterwards if she had been only 16 days since Sparkling phoning Channel 4 time and again to vote for herself as their Racing Personality of the but if Williams believes he is Year He was joking, of course, ready to do himself justice not only because Williams is again today, how can mere famously modest, but also because this was one person-ofthe-year poll which required no tainly one of the easiest winners

Lady Rebecca won for the fifth time in six outings, and her won last time out. ever-growing band of followers

Left-hand galloping course.

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first horse in the list for the Cone won with a big weight in testing conditions at Towcester, mortals dare to argue?

Sparkling Cone was cerof the season, and has been The punters voted for raised a very reasonable 8lb Venetia by the thousand, grate-since. He deserves to be the ful for 12 months of almost un- favourite this afternoon too. interrupted success. Williams but the problem for punters is started 1999 in similar vein at whether he should really be a Cheltenham yesterday, when 5-2 chance to beat some interesting rivals, four of whom also

Folly Road, for instance

ground, and gets more than a lack of runners. All five go to Kempton on Boxing Day had he Ask Antony, whose trainer, Paul Nicholls, has an even better strike-rate than Williams this season, is another with every chance on the book. In fact, there are more than enough possibilities to make this a no-

RICHARD EDMONDSON Nap: McHattie (Uttoweter 3.25) **NB: Flying Gunner** (Uttogeter 2,25)

bet contest, although those who really must could do worse than chance Kilmington, who returned to form last time after dropping down the weights, at the early 9-1

The Challow Hurdle too is may look no further than the relishes today's trip and difficult to sort out, despite the

stone from the favourite, while post with some sort of chance, although King's Road, the bumper winner at both the Aintree and Punchestown Festivals last season, will probably start favourite. A serious alternative, however, is Rio's King (next best 2.45), who did not get the best of rides when beaten into third in a hot race behind All Gong, a rival today. at Cheltenham. Despite that

> The final race on the Newbury card contains many punday, in the shape of Bold Gait. Formerty a useful handicapper on the Flat, Bold Gait has won his last two starts over hurdles process beating Tiutchev, who would surely have won at the beating of every rival here.

defeat, he is a horse of con-

siderable potential.

not fallen three out.

As so-called bankers go, Bold Gait is fairly solid, although he has risen by almost a stone in the weights since that latest win, and 29lb in all since the start of the season. That might yet tell in today's soft ground, and at 5-4 the risk is not worth taking.

Look instead to Uttoxeter,

where Cool Spring (2.25) and Listen Timmy (1.55) will go well, and Lingfield, where the final of the Ladbroke All-Weather Trophy offers the bet of the day. ters' idea of the banker of the This is a valuable, fiercelycontested race, but TOPTON (nap 3.10) appears to have been laid out to win it. Unlucky in running on each of his last three with ridiculous ease, in the starts, he can return to the winning form which gives him

hits back at critics

Maguire

ADRIAN MAGUIRE started his new year as a freelance jockey with two winners from three rides at Cheltenham, clear evidence if any were needed that he remains a force to be reckoned with. Baronet, last year's Scottish National winner, initiated his double in the fourmile chase, prevailing by a length and three-quarters after a tussle with Him Of Praise. "This horse has been good to me, and the faster the ground

the better for him," he said. Maguire's second win came after he had negotiated the twists and turns of the crosscountry course on Linden's Lotto and, as with Baronet's

success, the rider received a rousing ovation from the crowd. Results, page 22 2.50 RACING CHANNEL NOVICE HANDI-CAP CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 2m 4f

~ 5 declared ~ BETTING: 6-4 Chammy's Sage, 2-1 Fen Terrier, 3-1 Mr Frangipani, 8-1 Kinox Lane, 14-1 Thorntoun House

FORM VERDICT

Quite a tricky little contest and FEN TERRIER, who showed the right attitude at Market Rasen, is just preferred.

3.20 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 3m 110yds 1-0922 PALACE OF GOLD (21) (0 BF) L Lungo 9 Tl 13 . W Dowling (5)

1P0610 RUBER (18) (D) R Thomson 12 10 0...... 5050-0 THE BURGLAR (37) R Golde 7 10 0...... R Supple -7 declared -Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weights: Mr Mahdio 9st 12b, Ruber

9sr 38), Tree Burgler 9st. BETTING: 2-1 Palace Of Gold, 2-1 Northern Motto, 9-2 Mr Matidio, 5-1 Aren't Wa Lucky, 7-1 Shonara's Way, 16-1 Ruber, The Burglar

FORM VERDICT

AREN'T WE LUCKY should be nearing his peak after a couple of warm-ups and it will be a surprise if he doesn't go close in this company. Mr Mehdio is another with solid claims in what looks a gruelling contest.

AYR

HYPERION

12.20 Crosby Don 12.50 Mike Stan 1.20 Who Dares Wins 1.50 Chipped Out 2.20 Palacegate King 2.50 Mr Frangipani 3.20 Aren't We Lucky GOING: Heavy (Soft in home straight)

■ Course is E of town on A758. Ayr station 1m. ADMISSION: Club £14; Grandstand £7 (OAPs half-price). CAR PARK: Free. ILLEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Revelov 24-140 (17:1%), L Lungo -150 (M%), J.J.O'Neffi 13-109 (16.5%), P. Montefith 18-128 (14.1%).

II LEADING JOCKEYS: A Bobbin 37-170 (21.8%), B. Storey 24-54 (15.6%), P Niven 19-119 (16%), R Supple 15-74 (20.3%).

ELONG DISTANCE RUNNER: Royal Mountbrowne (150) has been sent 270 miles. BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None.

12.20 DROUTHY NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,750 added 4YO 2m 4f

BETTENG: 7-4 Ellerbeck, 9-4 Therebs Keith, 3-1 Brisno, 13-2 Captain Brady. FORM VERDICT

BRIANO was lightly raced and improving when last seen at the big tracks in France and could be a cut above these.

SOUTHWELL

12.30 Live Project 1.00 Kingchip Boy 1.30 Sual-

tach 2.00 Baron De Pichon 2.30 Palace Green

Figures and surface; left-hand sharp, oval course.

E.Course is 5m W of Newerk. Rolleston Junction adjoins course.

ILLEADING TRAINERS: M Johnston 49-239 (205%), S R Bouring

49-405 (119%), J L Eyro 42-299 (14%), Mrs N Macauley 39-348 (1996). IN LEADING JOCKEYS: J Weaver 47-283 (166%), J Quian 39-542

BLHSCERED FIRST TME: Trina's Pet (230), Ripenorter (visored, 100).

12.30 NEW YEAR AMATEURS HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV I) £3,000 added 1m

1 DIMO CODINERSHAM PARK (21) (CD) PRESEN 7 11 7 Mr J Growing 11
2 4300 SAFI (J14) D McCain 4 11 4 Mr O Dichemson (7) 4
3 6020 MADMAN'S MIRAGE (180) (C) V Thompson 4 11 2 Mr M Thompson 12

The Project Blooming American Park, 13-2 Sell, Live Project, Blooming American Sell, 2-1 Medman's Sellage, Julies Jevel, Up in Flames, 10-1 others

FORM VERDICT

Sodmersham Park has fine prospects if he can reproduce

this form of his perultimate run but preference is for SNOWY

PLANTLE, who should appreciate the return to Fibresand efter

Tollow-par run at Lingfield last time. Sine is well drawn, has

the good rider on board and could be a reasonable price.

The consumer Born A Lady 9st, Senant Live wagness Born A Lady 9st, Senant Live was the consumer as the consume

00000 JULES JEWEL (32) (C) M Crepmen 4 to 10 Mr S Haryen (7) 14

00404 CLOUDS OF GLORY (169) J Norton 4 to 10 Mr S Haryen (7) 1

2808 BLOOMENG AMAZING (85) (D) J L Eyre 5 10 9

Miss Digns J Jones 2

(7%), L. Charnock 35-394 (8.9%), G Duffield 34-258 (13.2%). **E FAVOURITES:** 458-1335 (34.3%).

MESSION: Club £12: Tettersalls £6 (OAP Diamond Club £4,

3.00 Principal Boy 3.30 Blow Me A Kiss

DRAW ADVANTAGE: Middle to high best 54

accompanied under-16s free). CAR PARK: Free

5025/2 TURKISH TOWER (T) R Niberi & ti D., 13.12-4 MBKE STAN (7) (C) L Lungo 8 10 10 BETTING: 8-13 Miles Stan, 11-4 Hurst Flyer, 4-1 Torician Towe

12.50 GLENGOYNE MALT NOVICE CHASE

(QUALIFIER) (D) £5,250 2m 5f 110yds

FORM VERDICT MIKE STAN has already won a point and, on the upgrade over

hurdles last season, is not being highly tried here.

AYR NEW YEAR 'NH' NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,750 added 2m 6f

424-12 CUICK MARCH (46) (D BF) E Weymes 6 11 O...N Horrocks (5) 3 SAIL ON SID (58) J.J. O'Neil 5 10 12 R Geest 50-890 TRIK OF THE TRADE (18) Min D Thomson 8 10 12 T Siddel (5) FILIGF- RUNNANG MOSS (251) A Mectaggart 7 10 9Mr C Storey

~ 12 declared -BETTING: 5-8 Quick March, 5-1 Fan D'Estraval, 6-1 Pessiraistic Dick, 10-1 Sail On Sid, 12-1 Who Dares Wins, Ayeknowso, 20-1 others **FORM VERDICT**

WHO DARRES WINS looks an obvious improver and is preferred to Quick March, who is in top form at present. Fan D'Estruval is another to keep an eye on for the future.

1.00 NEW YEAR AMATEURS HANDICAP (CLASS F) (DIV II) £3,000 added 1m

45664 PALAIS (185) J L Harris 4 11 7

NE BY 70.

oer an, reproved na / na. BETTING: 11-4 Holy Smoke, 9-2 Arc, 8-1 Satty Behaviour, 12-1 Pateis, Knotty Hill, Musakadeth, Typhoon Eight, Kingchip Boy, 14-1 othera

FORM VERDICT

A modest handicap in which Holy Smoke should go well. But-

et the likely prices, a chance is taken on KINGCHIP BOY in the hope that he can rediscover his best over this course and

and showed a bit more then of leto at this course lest time.

1.30 CRACK OF NOON CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) \$2,750 added 1m

– 14 deciered – BETTING: 3-1 "Rheroen, 7-2 Rumbo Weltzer, 9-2 Sumbach, 8-1 Nove York-er, 10-1 Kalertosy Jazz, 14-1 Assessonse Venture, Top Maile, 16-1 ethera

FORM VERDICT

Only a few can be given a serious chance in this claimer and

RAMBO WALTZER is fancied to confirm recent placings with

Ulbersen, despite meeting the latter on slightly worse terms.

"Boareen, though, should run his usual solid race and is the

1.50 LETS GO HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 4f

DSP-33 ROYAL MOUNTBROWNE (14) (D) Miss M Roward 11 12 D....

Mirenum weight: 10st. True handloop weight: Scribbler 9st 6tb. BETTRIG: 5-2 Chipped Out, 3-1 Committed Schedule, 7-2 Royal Mount-browne, 5-1 Coqui Lane, 7-1 Montrave, Forbidden Time, 190-1 Scribbler

FORM VERDICT

Several of these often make the running and Chipped Out may not get the race run to suit it might be worth giving FOR-BIDDEN TIME another chance now that he returns to tences as he is potentially well treated and likes this ground.

2.20 GALLOWAY GAZETTE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) 56,500 added 2m

FORM VERDICT Despite the worry about the absence, LORD PODGSKI has been given a good chance by the handscapper and is worth

025- LOST SPIRIT (127) P Hatt 9 2.....

2.00 MORNING CALL HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3YO 7f

30:63- GLASTONBURY (26) (D) (BF) P Howing 9 7 T Sprake 12

00002- BARON DE PICHON (11) N Litmoden 9 2.T G McLaughlin 5

3.00 THINKING AND DRINKING SELLING STAKES (CLASS G) \$2,500 1m 3f (2267- BONNE VELLE (7) Mess S William 5 9 1 T Spreke 3 HOND- MEGWAR (42) N Limmoden 6 9 1T G McLauthlin 2 04000- PRINCIPAL BOY (15) (C) Miss J Craze 6.9 1 S Webster 6

A poor race, in which BONNE VILLE could easily prove a more

reliable proposition than dropped-in-class infamous and

3.30 RESOLUTION MAIDEN HANDICAP

23200- BLOW ME A KISS (32) C Thomson 4 9 4 Dean McKe

(CLASS E) £4,000 added 1m 4f

Q/DD- STORM COMMAND (221) D Astrustrus 5 & 2 T Sprake 13

000/0- COPPER SHELL (J18) Mrs L Jawel 5 8 12 R Price 14

04300- ARCTIC STAR (192) V Thompson 4 8 6 J Femolog 7

50002- DUDLEY ALLEN (15) T Clement 4 8 2 Lowe 11

52020- OXISANE (J24) Was S Larryman 5 8 0 L Charnock 4

10 080- PRINCESSE ZELDA (7) Miss L School 5 7 t3 ... J Edimundo 8

TO D4005- TOWNWILLE CEE CEE (15) G Woodward 47 to .P M Quinn (7) 9

- 14 declared -

Minimum weight: 7st 10lb. True handicap weights: Shehren 7st 9lb, Townwille

5 34030- BIHT ST JAMES (21) J Bethel 4 8 8_ ... Goeller (7) 6

004- EMARINA (28) J Spesring 9 2 ______S Righton (7) 1 000- ULTRA CALM (188) P Haskim 9 2 ______ P Goode (7) 13 500- COEUR DU LION (183) D Nichola 8 G......P A Clark (7) 4 Q000- LAPU-LAPU (32) Miss J Camedio 6 8 10......L Chamock 4 B

BETTING: 7-2 Bance Ville, 6-1 Internous, 8-1 Areish, Burgales Own, Moon num weight: 7st 10lb. True handicap weight: Trois Elles 7st 5lb. stone, 10-1 Migwax, Danzig Flyer, Principal Boy, 12-1 others BETTENG: 5-2 Just Wiz, 4-1 Baron De Pichon, 13-2 Glastonbury, Lady Otkijob, 7-1 Emarksa, 10-1 Lost Spirit, 14-1 Bustly, 20-1 others FORM VERDICT

FORM VERDICT

it is best to side with form on Fibresand and BARON DE PI-CHON, who put up his best effort here lest time, gets the vote in a tricky race. He's open to further improvement and is taken to beat Just Wiz, who has been running creditably on Equitrack and should be suited by this step up in trip.

- 14 declared -

2.30 ONE TOO MANY HANDICAP (CLASS E) \$4,500 added 3YO 6f

210- TREAD SOFTLY (57) (D) (BF) 9 Fahey 9 7 R Winston (3) 4 05/40- CARRIE POOTER (127) (D) T D Barron 9 0 O Pears 8 10050- TRINA'S PET (43) (C) J Beiding 89 Edimunds 2 B 30400- EFWNALE (75) P Hastern 8 8 10500 BANNENGHAM BREEZE (52) (C) D Notate 87 Soption Michael 3 580- SOURIDS LUCKY (141) N Literacion 8 0....... R Thomas (7) 10

1100- KILLARNEY JAZZ (119) (CD) N Litmoden 4 8 13

1 G McLusphin 3 V

1 Dale Gitson 5

2 Dale Gitson 5

2 Dale Gitson 5

2 Dale Gitson 5

3 Dale Gitson 5

3 Dale Gitson 5

3 Dale Gitson 5

4 Dale Gitson 6

4 Dale Gitson 7

5 Dale Gitson 7 04400- SUPER STRIDES (11) C Feithurs 7 10 P M Quinn (7) 7 10 declared -Minimum weight: 7st 10th. True handlesp weights: Super Strides 7st 9th, Hol

Poseso 7st 7fb. BETTING: 4-1 Tread Softly, Palace Green, 6-1 Boothari Anna, 7-1 Carrie Postes, Etimele, 8-1 Barmingham Bresze, 10-1 Trine's Pel, 12-1 others FORM VERDICT

A no-bet race, in which much will depend upon how well the AW newcomers take to the surface. ERINVALE did at least run well here on his debut and gets a tentative vols.

Cae Cee 7st 7th, Copper Cookie 7st 2th. BETTING: 7-2 Abulticod, 9-2 Dudley Allien, 5-1 Eint St. James, 8-1 Essender 10-1 Blow Me A Kies, Oxbene, Townsille Cee Cee, 12-1 othest **FORM VERDICT**

With huge doubts over every runner, this race makes no appeal for betting. BLOW NE A KISS is the reluctant selection.

UTTOXETER

12.55 Manasis 2,25 Cool Spring 2.55 Belmorebruno 1.25 Trakelor

1.55 LISTEN TIMMY (nap) 3.25 McHattie

GOING: Soft (odd heavy patch).

IL sti-tand course. Run-in of 170yds.

IL course is SE of town near B5017. Station (Derby-Crewe line) adjoins course. ADMISSION: Cath St5 (OAPs 512): Tattersate 510 (OAPs 57); Centre 55. CAR PARK: Free.

IL EADING TRAINERS: M Pipe 33-121 (273%). Nicholson 22-100 (22%), K Bailey 20-107 (18,7%), S Brookshew 13-89 (213%).

IL LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 31-115 (27%), R Durwoody 23-117 (197%), N Williamson 23-12 (183%), R Johnson 21-150 (14%).

IL EAVOURITES: 25-858 (278%).

FAVOURITES: 258-683 (37.8%).

12.55 CARLING ROCK HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS F) £4,000 added 2m Penalty Value £2,710

— a creamen.—

Nameum weight: 10st. True hendicap weight: Days Of Thunder 9st 10th, Follow De Call 9st 9st.

BETTING: 5-2 Centaur Express, 7-2 Mister Oddy, 4-1 Beyand Our Reach, 6-1 Days Of Thunder, 6-1 Manesis, Follow De Call, 10-1 Astral Investion, 12-1 Northern Singer

198: Meeting abandoned Que to waterlogging

There should be no hanging around with four habitual front-runners in the field. This should surt Beyond Our Reach, who is normally held up and a running into form, but he is likely to find the Tony McCoy-partnered. CENTAUR EXPRESS di-ficult to pass, Although on the small side, the seven-year-old has defied big weights.

1.25 PETER J DOUGLAS ENGINEERING SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,000 added 2m Penalty Value £1,553

FORM VERDICT Permit holder John Allen had a useful strike-rate with his small string last season, and his recent recruit RUSK, who is knowned by the weights, is capable of a bold bid. He could have most to fear from Trakelor.

LADBROKE LIMITED HANDICAP CHASE (C) C4 1.55 LADBROKE LIMITED TIAMBOOK \$7,068 purple and white diamonds, striped sleeves and cap 212-34 MADISON COUNTY (38) (B it Peppert) P Hotos 9 to 12 A P McCoy 8

red, white seeh, emerald green steenes, white armiess, emerald green cap

4 declared
BETTING: 7-4 Share Options, 9-4 Listen Timmy, 3-1 in Truth, 7-2 Madison County FORM GUIDE

Listen Timmy: Gained all three chase was on this course last season and handle: soft ground. Stiff task at Ascot on reeppearance and creditable 3rd to Dr Bones at Wetherby last time. Sure to go well for the step up in trip. In Trutth: Big pince winner of the Kurn Mur last season when 16th out of the hand-cap. Led for much of the way before fading and 4th to Lord Of The West at Don-

cap. Led for much of the way before reuring and win to cond on the mass to be caster last time. Has twice won in soft ground Madison Country: Ex-irish mud lover who is up in trip after two runs this term. 3rd to allober The Klober here and 4th to the progressive Nearly An Eye at Chepstow Share Optiona: Has been rested since finding the ground too testing at Haydock in race won by Dom Samourai. Looked progressive earlier with an easy win from

VERDICT: LISTEN TIMMY has gained three wins on this course and he looks ready to add to the score after the latest fine Wetherby showing. This is a trappy little race but Listen Timmy is the type to improve for biday's longer distance and can concede the weight to Share Options, who looked promising prior to the poor show-

2.25 CAFFREYS IRISH ALE HANDICAP HURDLE (C) £10,000 3m 110yds Penalty Value £7,003

red, park steever and cap 0-045 STEWARTS PRIDE (17) (D) (S H Riley) S Brookshaw 6 10 9..... - 7 decia

- 7 declared -BETTING: 3-1 Flying Gunner, 7-2 Accountancy Ledy, 4-1 Dom Beitrand. 9-2 Court Circular 13-2 Cool Spring, Stewarts Pride, 12-1 Jet Rules FORM GUIDE

POHM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

FORM GUIDE

Flying Gunner: In good form in November with long-distance wirs at Newbury and

Chepstow. Outpaced from four out but kept on well against Alpine Parither at Bangor next time. Fine chance in this weater grade

Dom Beltrano: Won on the course last February but has about 8 lengths to make

Dom Beltrano: Won on the course last February but has about 8 lengths to make up on Flying Gunner on Bangor running behind Alpine Panther Cool Spring: Progressed well last season with wins at Warwick and Newbury and likely to improve plemy for her seasonel 3rd to Flying Gunner at Chepstow. Beaten 14 lengths she now meets that winner on 8th better terms and stable in good form Court Circular: Beat Ross Dancer here in September but this is a better race and today's underloot conditions likely to court against him Jet Rules: Formerly smart stayer but disappointing last season. Hen better on reappearance despite being beaten a long way behind Flying Gunner and Cool Spring Accountaincy Lady: Made all to gain novice wins at Humingdon and Taunton last season but uses on reach for Cool Spring Accountainey Lady: Made all to gain novice wins at Humingdon and Taunton last season but uses on reach for Cool Spring

season but was no match for Cool Spring at Newbury in between. Can still be con-

sidered with her 22th pull Stewarts Pride: Beat subsequent winner Young Thruster over 3m at Towcester and played a prominent part when beaten 8 lengths in lifth behind Alpine Parither at Ban-gor. Now 4th better with the second Flying Guriner

VERDICT: Hying Gurmer again showed his staying ability with a spinted light against Alpine Parither at Bangor but Stawarts Pride is no toriom hope to reverse that form on the likely softer ground. Another who could reverse form with Flying Gunner is COOL SPRING, who shaped well behind the Nicholson horse at Chapstow. Yony McCoy is booked and Cool Springs stable has int better form since that Chapstow

2.55 SPOT ON NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) £5,250 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £3,729

- 3 declared -BETTING: 4-6 Monicesman, 2-1 Selmorebrum, 5-1 I'm Mayory **FORM VERDICT** I'm Maggy was the pick of the tric over hurdles and gets weight here, but she has been unconvincing over fances to date. The other two would appreciate a stiffer test of stamina, but MONICASMAN was not short of pace in his hurdling days

3.25 JENKINSONS CATERERS NOVICE HURDLE (D) £4,000 2m 4f 110yds Penalty Value £3,022

Disco, white equation, black claimes, white stars

0540 FAIR FINESH (57) (N Brown) W Clay 5 15 ...

Syll blue, repail blue stars, girl blue cap, repail blue star

0-300 KARADEN (42) (Mrs J Galpin) R Hollinshead 5 11 5 ...

white, royal blue exputiets, white elsewis, rad armiets, rad cap

- 10 declared
BETTING: 2-1 Michatile, 3-1 Kithilan Lad, 7-2 Stangment, 4-1 Alto, 10-1 Berlin Blue, 16-1 Midevor

Sinstral, 25-1 Karadani, 33-1 others.

FORM GUIDE

Michettia: Duly confirmed the Haydock promise when winning with ease of New-castle, beging Becca's Rose 15 tengths. Existing prospect Atta: Dual bumper winner who gained a hard tought win from Tautan Boy on hurdies debut at Exeter, Disappointing taxounte behind Dark Romance at Towo

Berlin Stue: Contested strong races lest season and ran well at Ascot before falling at the second last. First sittempt since April Carry The Cand: Hereford bumper winner on second start in 1996 but likely to be

in need of this comeback attempt Pair Fundah: Shaped as a stayer when 4th to Waterlaw at Bangor (2m4f) but showed very little on this course next time when 7th to Mystere init: Modest form so far and doesn't look up to the task (lest of 8 to Radia-

tion at Aintree last time) bon at Auture last time; Kitheliee Lad: Won bumper at Ludow on good ground and now makes hurdles debut on a softer surface and on a stiller track. The type to progress and will find trip ideal Mildavon Minstret: Tailed off on hurdles debut in Phar Better's race on this course. Needs to improve greatly to figure today Shagreen: Cheltenham bumper winner and good 1-length second to Sudast at Don-

caster on jumping debut. Obvious chance getting the weight State Pair: Winning 7/ performer on the level for Barry Hills but best watched on

VERDICT: MCHATTIE will find this a stiffer test with the penalty after the New-castle success but he ctill appeals as being up to the task. Kilhulas Lad should do well on his jumping debut with the trip to but and Shagreen did nothing wrong in defeat against Sudest at Doncaster. After on too badly to be true at Towcester but the stablets horses are not exactly fining at the moment.

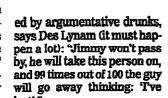
The strange phenomenon of Jimmy Hill

WHO SAID this? "I would like to be a dictator and manage all 92 League clubs, and make the directors do what is good for the game and the future. I think that would be marvellous." Brian Clough? Ken Bates? Eric Hall? Sort of. A combination of all three in fact - that strange phenomenon, Jimmy Hill.

That remark, uttered when Hill was the pioneering manager of Coventry City, comes a couple of minutes into Are You Watching, Jimmy Hill? (BBC2, Saturday) and is perhaps the most revealing few seconds of this encomium to the Chinful Wonder. Into his dotage, even his most womanish contributions are deliv-

CHRIS MAUME

> **SPORT** ON TV



A couple of minutes after



arguing furiously with the referee afterwards, chin to epic

It's the fire for the game that has made him a consistently watchable if irritating pundit for the last quarter of a century, though even if he'd opened up the "dictator" clip, there's film a pub in the late 60s and never of "the Rabbi", as he was seen the light of day again his seen the light of day again his known at Fulham, pacing out place in the game's history the 10 yards at a free-kick, then would be secure by dint of his

wage removed and the revolution he instigated at Coventry, taking them from the Third Division to the First amid a frenzy of US-style marketing.

The impression these last few years has been one of relative decline - too many potty pronouncements and loony lectures (there's film of Alan Hansen paralysed with laughter during Hill's treatise during France 98 on the benefits of teams dyeing their hair en masse). In something of a backhanded compliment, Barry Davies said: "Every so

Hang on, didn't we think this fellow was past it'?" Hansen and Terry Venables

often he comes up with a cou-

ple of lines and people think:

work to have the maximum perated with the fatuousness of some of Hill's remarks, and Hansen is conspicuous by his absence from the film. Venables insists he likes the guy, despite popular perception, describing a typical encounter with a cabbie: "You really don't like that Jimmy Hill, do you?"

> right. I don't like him." The film was missing a couple of people - cool analysts rather than foaming-mouthed ranters - who genuinely do not like him or at least his punditry. But then this was an affectionate tribute rather than a "Secret Life Of..." blockbuster. though a less chummy account would have had more fun with some of his more ridicu-

> "I do like him, actually." "No.

you don't." "No, I really do like

him." "Nah you don't." "All

lous pretensions – his unlikely infiltration, while still a footballer oik, of the foxhunting set for example, and his apparent weakness" for women.

Still, we get a few seconds

of him looking suitably absurd and arriviste at the hunt, surrounded by hounds presumably mistaking his furry chin for their quarry. And there's later footage of him looking equally out of place as he accompanies Raquel Welch to a match, explaining the finer points as she spouts breathtaking nonsense left over from her cavewoman script in One Million Years BC. "If women's lib knew what they were doing," sighs the for-mer top totty, "they'd be down here watching this game,

watching all these lovely men

things."

The archive highlight, though, is Hill riding at Aintree in 1974 (could it have been an actual race?). The first fence is one too many as his mount, perhaps realising how he's sent his career down the pan by allowing himself to be ridden by someone like this, exits track and course via what appears to be somebody's back garden while the miked-up Hill tries to talk horsey to him (making more sense in the process than he was wont to do in later years).

My other favourite piece of film was from the 1970 World Cup, for which Hill, then still in the process of building up LWT's coverage to match the BBC's, assembled a panel from

hell, which made, of course, for TV heaven: Paddy Crerand, Derek Dougan and a splendidly pissed Malcolm Allison roaring about the "peasants" of Italy and Germany persisting with the sweeper system.

The trio ran up a legendary drink tab, according to Hill's joint head of LWT Sport, John Bromley: "The manager came quivering to me with the bill." It was worth it, because ITV was finally on the footballing map thanks to Hill - just one of his many achievements. Venables describes walking with him on a pitch-side track to the accompaniment of

"Jimmy Hill's a wanker". Hill was unperturbed. "There's fame for you," he said. "They love me here." And, in a way, he was right.

Bullets'

squad

West Indies must restore their image

BEATEN IN all three Tests, the series already lost, Brian Lara's assertion that his West Indies team is playing for pride in the fourth Test starting at Newlands today is more than a

Its abject performances in what was, for social and political as much as cricketing reasons, a tour of great expectations, have earned it widespread derision in South Africa as well as back bome.

One of the jibes making the rounds at its expense is that it has introduced a new form of cricket to follow the day-night and other modern variations. Test - it last three days, South Africa having won each of the last two in less than 270 overs. side in the series with 16

shouldered West Indies heading off the field with a white steelband player singing: "Day-o, day-o, third Test gone and they wanna go home.

The effect of the demise has been most felt among South eters, now being encouraged under various United Cricket Board schemes in the town-

Australian Test players, Shane

gations in Melbourne next

Board's legal adviser, Ali Sib-

would be offered the chance

allegations travels to Australia

to interview Warne. Waugh

and the former Australian

team manager, Alan Crompton.

The hearing will be in Mel-

can have a last chance to cross-

question Australian players," Ali

However, Salim said he will

not go to Australia, but will

send his lawyer to cross-ex-

amine Waugh and Warne.

"There is no use going to Aus-

"We have also told Salim he

bourne on 8 January.

The Pakistan Cricket

Indians as role models."

Prospects for a belated West Indies revival are not encouraging. They must start without Courtney Walsh, whose torn left game, the Eights, Super-Max hamstring means that he will miss a Test through injury for Now we have the West Indies only the second time in his 15 vears of international cricket.

A newspaper cartoon wickets, his loss will be imfollowing the Durban defeat mense. It is compounded by the uncertain niness of Curtiv

him figures of 7 for 84 in the first Africa's emerging black crick- innings at Durban but who has complained of soreness in his bowling shoulder.

Ottis Gibson, the Barbados

Salim turns down Imran

trip to Australia

SALIM MALIK, the former Pak-tralia. The Australian Cricket

istan captain, has turned down Board is protecting its play-

the opportunity to question two ers," Salim said. "I am inno-

By TONY COZIER

has had a negative effect on our development programmes," said Khaya Majola, one of the best black players during the apartheid years and now one of the key administrators of the development programme. "The black kids look up to the West

Ambrose, who is expected to of the Test in doubt, prompting play in spite of a nagging knee They will definitely have to do without Franklyn Rose whose fast out-swingers earned

ships. "What's been happening and former Glamorgan fast

the provincial team, Border, and will play his second Test as in Cape Town one of the four fast bowlers alongside Ambrose, Nixon McLean and Mery Dillon. Gibson's hard-hitting late-order batting should be a boost to a team with a fragile tail. The West Indies have al-

ready used 16 players in the three Tests. South Africa will make their first change here, left-arm spinner Paul Adams replacing the 38-year-old offspinner Pat Symcox, Adams joins Herschelle Gibbs as the two non-white players in the XI, but it is not a ratio that has placated the Sports Minister Steve Tshwete and others in the The leading bowler on either African National Congress government pressing for affirmative action.

bowler, joined the team late

yesterday from his season with

A day of continuous heavy another dig at the West Indies from one of their 200 supporters who have flown out from the Caribbean. "So it might even go five days this time," he quipped. MYST BINDES (FIRM): BC CLARA (CAPI), CB LARBORT, PA WEBASE, IR MUTTAY S'ONN-derpaul, D Ganga, C L Hooper, R D Jacobs (wkl.), C E L, Ambrose, O D Gibson, S C Williams, N A M McLean, SOUTH AFRICA: W J Confe (capt), G Kirsten, H H Gibbs, J H Katlis, D J Cuillian, IN Rondes, S M Poliock, M V Boucher (wkt.), L Klusener, A A Donald, D J Terbrugge, P R Adams

England's Neil Fairbrother takes a tumble during a run-out attempt against Don Bradman's XI Graham Morris

Matthews confines England

votes for Wasim

Warne and Mark Waugh, in in betting or match-fixing," he person over their bribery alle-Waugh and Warne have alleged that Salim offered them bribes to perform poorly during Australia's 1994 tour of Paktain Fazli, had said Salim istan

cent and have never indulged

While Waugh gave evidence when the Pakistan judicial commission into match-fixing to the commission in Lahore, next week's hearing follows last month's scandal when it was revealed both Australian players had accepted money from an illegal Indian bookmaker to provide weather and pitch information on the 1994

> Salim has seized on the revelations - which had previously been kept confidential by the Australian Cricket Board, which fined Warne and Waugh for their actions - claiming it discredits their allegations against

IMRAN KHAN, Pakistan's World

Cup-winning captain, said yesterday that Wasim Akram is the ideal man to lead Pakistan on the all-important tour of India later this month Pakistan are scheduled to

play their first two Tests against their arch-rivals for 11 years, besides participating in the Asian Test Championship and triangular one-day series, which also features Sri Lanka. The Pakistan Cricket Board's executive council is scheduled to meet in Lahore tomorrow, when the captain for the Indian tour is likely to be announced.

"He [Wasim] is a complete team man and I think should be made the captain of the national team," Imran said. "The tour of India is always something different from the tours of other countries, and I think Wasim is the right man who could lead under pressure."

bane of England yesterday as England XI 187 they suffered a convincing 51- Bradman XI win by 51 runs run defeat against the Bradman XI in their one day match in Bowral Chasing 238 for 6 off 50 overs after the hosts won the toss and elected to bat, England were 187 all out in 42.1 overs on the ground where the Australian batting legend Sir Donald Bradman first came to

Matthews, the former Australian Test all-rounder, did the damage with four wickets for 43 runs, while the up and coming fast bowler Brett Lee captured

GREG MATTHEWS was the Bradman XI 238-6

Adam Hollioake, the England captain, was the only batsman to make a stand, hitting 67. The only other player to make a show was the opener Vince Wells, who scored 31. There was a worrying lack of resilience in the lower order, with Ian Salisbury the only tailender to reach double figures with 15.

The Bradman XI boosted their total after some lusty hitting by their middle-order. Corey Richards, who topscored with 62, Scott Thomp-

son, who made 38, and Phil Emery, who carried his bat for 37, were among the runs after a slow start.

The veteran, Angus Fraser, who was dropped from the squad for the fifth Test, was the pick of the England bowlers, taking three for 25 from 10 overs. Gavin Hamilton provided the chief support with 2 for 23 off his six overs, while Vince Wells also picked up a wicket. nan XI we

M J Phelps c A J Holltoake b Fraser0 G R J Matthews c Alleyne b Wells.....20 5 M Thompson lbw b Hamilton38

> 1.25: 1. INDIAN RUN (T Descombe) 5-1; 2. Regement 11-10 tay; 3. Herwalian Youth 5-4. 3 ran. 9, 11. (R Hodges). Tote: £430 Dual

under pressure BASKETBALL By RICHARD TAYLOR

MARK ROBINSON, the All Star American, is set to become the

next player to leave Birmingham Bullets, as the Budweiser League club try to gain a place in the League Trophy quarterfinals with just five senior players for tonight's group game against Greater London Leop-

Mark Considine and Chuck Guittar left the club on Christmas Eve as the volatile chemistry between the squad blew up in the face of the coach, Mike

Robinson is out of tonight's game at the National Exhibition Centre because of a hand injury. but Finger refused to confirm that he will play for the club

member of the team but is unable to play because of injury. Will be play for us again? I don't know the answer."

Robinson was the big name summer signing from Sheffield Sharks partly to fill the gap when the leading scorer, Tony Dorsey, joined Manchester Gi ants. But Robinson was soon relegated to a role coming off the bench as Nigel Lloyd and Reggie Kirk continue to dominate the scoring.

Finger is experiencing a difficult second season after leading the club to the League runners-up spot and then winning the play-off title at Wembley. Following the decision by the owner Harry Wrublewski to return to Australia, the Bullets are now being controlled by the Basketball League until they find a new owner.

The League will have to ratify any new signings as Finger searches for a post player to replace the 6ft 10in Considine and to support Clive Allen and Fabulous Flournoy under the basket. He also needs a utility player to replace Guittar and, in all probability, Robinson.

Tonight Finger will need Allen, Lloyd, Kirk, Flournoy and Tony Simms to play all 40 minutes against a resurgent Leopards.

The League champions are only eighth in the table but last weekend reached the National Cup final and play the Sharks at the Sheffield Arena tomorrow week.

Now they can also take a place in the Trophy quarter-finals by beating Birmingham tonight, Edinburgh tomorrow and London Towers next Sat-

urday Billy Mimms, the Leopards' coach, said: "I've always said. this is a talented team and now we're getting them to think with the big game men-

Going: Good to Soft, Good in places; Cross-country Course: Soft.

12.30: 1. MAJADOU (A P McCoy) 9-2; 2. Kadou Nonentals 11-10 tay; 3. Elahken 16-1 8 ran. 11 dist (trained by M Pipe at Welling-ton). Tota: \$490; \$110, \$150, \$150. Dual Forecast: £390. Computer Straight Forecast:

1.00: 1. BARONET (A Maguire) 7-2; 2. Him of Preisse 11-2; 3. Lay it Off 15-1. 8 ram. 11-1 fav Flated Cast (unseated inder). 177- dist. (D Nicholson, Temple Guiling). Totae: \$3.60; \$1.40, \$1.50, \$3.10, \$1.50, \$2.50, \$1. cast: \$22904 Non Runner: Mass Diskin. 1.35: 1. DANGERUS PRECEDENT (N Williamson) 9-4 fav; 2. Noble Demand 14-1; 3. Waye Rock 8-1, 11 rain. 10, 5. (C Egerton, Chaddleworth), Tota: £310; £160, £440, £250, Dual Forecast: £33.30, CSF;

2.10: 1. LADY REBECCA (N Williamson) 4-5 fac 2. Alpine Parther 9-2. 3. Papo Kharte-ma 5-1. 5 tan. 13, 4 (Miss Venetic Williams, Hereland), Tota: \$170; \$130, \$200, Dual Fore-

2,45: 1. EIRESPRAY (S Durack) 11-2; 2. Mr

2 fev Northern Startight (unseated rider) hd. 1/2, (Mrs S Smith, Bingley), Tote: 28.70; £2.40, £2.00, £3.40. DF: £21.20. ČSF: £34.78. Theast

3.20; 1. LINDEN'S LOTTO (A Maguire) 13-8 fav; 2. Familiani 12-1; 3. Cavalero 6-1, 5 ren. 9, 6. (A Martin, Co Meath). Tota: £2.20; 3.55: 1. SPLENDID THYNE (W Marston) 6 4 tar; 2. Silver Wedge 11-4; 3. Ocean Hawit. 7-2. 4 ran. nk, dist. (T Casey, Upper Lambourn). Tota: £2.30. DF: £3.70. CSF: £5.53.

Jackpot: 96,669.50 Placepot: £9480. Quadpot: £920. Place 6: £5619. Place 5: £3066.

> CATTERICK Going: Good, Good to Soft

2. Squardamanula 9-2; 3. Certedian Fentary 14-1; 2. Squardamanula 9-2; 3. Certedian Fentary 14-1; 2. Squardamanula 9-2; 3. Certedian Fentary 14-1; 12 rat., 7-2 fav Rejati (8th), 11/4, 7. (F. Woodhouse, York), Tota: \$3.00; \$750, \$120, \$220. \$150. DF: £120; £120; £120, £120. £120. DF: £1570. CSF: £704. Titasst. \$2723. NRs: Jona Holley, King's Country. Placeport: £9180. Quadpot: £7760. Place 6: £3220. Place 5: £2713.

2. King's Hussar 5-1; 3. Jago 11-2, 13 ran. 3-1 fav im Tel (5th), hd, 25. (F Murphy, Mid-deham), Tote: 6800; £190, £210, £210. DF: £19.60. CSF: £32.39. No bid for the winner. 1.55: 1. TOM'S RIVER (Mr A Demosey) 4-1; 2. Sister Gale 4-1; 3. Joridi Le Forige 7-2 Ji fav. 15 run. 7-2 Ji fav Monsieur Darcy (4th). 3, 17. (Mrs M Reveley, Seltburn). Tota; 2570; £180, £180, £200. DF: £1690. CSF:

£78.18. NR: Forrest Tribe. 2.25: 1. MARIGLIANO (Mr R Forristel) 2-1 ter; 2. Cumbrian Meastro 4-1; 3. Country Orchid 4-1 6 ran. 2'/r. 4. (K Morgan, Melton Montray). Role: \$2.40; \$140, \$170, DF: \$580.

2.55: 1. COUNT KARMUSKI (R Bellemy) 11-

12.40: 1. NORSKI LAD (R Duovooriv) 4-5 fay; 2. Laffeh 18-1; 3. Doublet 8-1, 10 ran. Dist, 5. (P Nicholis), Tota; £170; £120, £280, £200. DF: £890. CSF; £1243 EZALL DF: ESSUL CSF: ETZAS 1.10: 1. SANDANTE (DBYNY O'Sulvan) 20-1; 2. Viscount Tully 13-2; 3. Spirit Level 8-4 text 8 ran. 11/4, 1/8 Bucklet). Totas 11840; 2350, 1140, 1150. DF: 84400. CSF: \$12034. Tricast 523588. NR: Summer Flower. No bid for the winner.

1.40: 1. HOLDIMCLOSE (J Frost) 7-4 tav; 2. Divine Chance 25-1; 3. Damicies Country 15-1.10 ran. 20; 15. (R Frost) Tota: £240; \$130 \$320 \$470 DF: \$22.50 CSF: \$4064 2.10: 1. SAXON DUKE (F Durwoody) 7-4 fav; 2. Maurachas 25-1: 3. Space Cappe 14-1.9 ran. 6.24. (P Hobbs) Tolke £210; £140. \$490, \$270, OF: \$3170, CSF: \$3528, Tric-

891: 2422581 2.40: 1. NATIVE FLING (R Dunwoody) 6-5 fav; 2. Credo Boy 20-1; 3. Lyphard's Pable 11-2.8 ran. 6, ½ (P Hobbs). Tole: £180; £120, 9470, £160, DF: £46,00, CSF: £22,04, Tricest: £94,11, 3,10: 1, WHITEBONNET (Mas S Jackson) 40-1; 2, Sanntse Special 6-1; 3, Hendy Lase

RACING RESULTS 3-1 Jt tev. 9 ren. 3-1 Jt fav Kentford Tina (#h). 2½, 2½, (C.Jackson), Tolar (#15), (5520, 5210, 5160, DF: £86,20, CSF: £244,59, Tricast

> 3.40: 1. LUSCOMBE (P Ryan) 9-1; 2. Orlental Style 5-1; 3. Another Chancer 11-4, 7 ran. 15-8 tav Selberry (4th). 2'h, 1t. (P Jones). Tote: £1480; £400, £290. DF: £2870. CSF: \$4594 Plecapot: £210. Quadoot: £460.

> > LEICESTER Going: Hurdles - Heavy: Chas Good to Soft (Soft in places)

9-4.4 mm. 5. dist. (O Shermood). Total: £1590. DF: £420. CSF: £2989. 1.15: 1. HANG'EM OUT TO DRY (J A Mc-Carthy) 7-4 fav. 2. Merry Shot 5-1: 3. The Lady Scores 8-1. 5 ren. 9, 21. (E. James). Tota: £290; \$190, £190. DT: \$650. CSF: £953 1.50: 1. ROUND ROBIN (J. A McCarthy) 1-2 tar; 2. Remember Star 5-1; 3. Sylphido 5-1 4 ran, 13, 14 (Mrs A. Johnson). Tota: £150. DF: £200. CSF: £310. NF: Stretching. Win-ner bought in for 3,400 guness.

2, Denicheur 11-1; 3. Shanavogh 5-4 fav. 5 ran. Dist, 29. (D Nicholson), Tota: £4.70; £120, £2.90. DF: £18.30. GSF: £35.44 2.50: 1. GILL'MAR (D Gelagner) 3-1; 2. Pedara 4-6 far; 3. Boulevard Bay 25-1 6 ran. 1, 7. (Capt T Forster) Tota: \$400: \$260. \$100. DF: \$250. CSF: \$5.31.

3.25: 1. DARK KESTREL (C Ration) 100-30; 2. Bessle Browns 11-10 fav; 3. Shoofk 3-1, 5 ram. 1/r, dist. (C Mann). Tota: 52:90; \$150. \$150 DF: \$240 CSF: \$669. Placepot: £39100. Quadpot: £690.

Place 6: £613.37. Place 5: £22.68. LINGFIELD

Going: Standard 1.05: 1. SLEAVE SILK (J Quinn) 14-1; 2. Har-

vey White 10-1; 3. Senteny's Shuffle 7-2 to: 14 ran, 1/s, 1/s. (W Musson) Tota: £22.20; £660. £2.70, £180. DF: £66.60. CSF: £131.38. Tricast: 1556.72. NR: Evezio Pulio. 1.30: 1. DAUNTED (Dane O'Neil) evens lov: 2. Paddock inspection 4-1; 3. King Flyer 12-1 9 ren. 5, 1 (G L Moore). Tote: £190; £170, £170, £180. DF: £400. CSF: £483.

2.05: 1. THEKRYAATI (G Center) 2-1; 2, Helf Tide 7-1; 3. Such Boldness 7-4 fav. 9 ran. 'h, 6. (M Johnston). Tote: \$2.40; \$130, \$150. \$130 DF: \$1140 CSF: \$13.03 A0: 1. KINGS ARROW (J Quant) 3-1 tay; 2. Confronter 5-1; 3. Stip Jig 13-2, 8 ran. Nk. 7 (P Howling). Total £3,00; £110, £210, £3,10. DF: £5,10. CSF: £15,90

3.15: 1. DREAM ON ME (J Farring) 5-4 fav; 2. Shabaash 11-4; 3. Missa Take 13-2 5 ran. "A, 6. (G L Moore), Total: £2.10; £1.50, £1.10. DF: £3.00. CSF: £4.60 3.45: 1. JOHN BOWDLER MUSIC (J Fanning) 11-1; 2. Anakato 5-1; 3. Acid Test 13-2, 12 ran. 3-1 fav Pageboy, 1/4, 11/4. (M Johnston), Tota: £1120; £320 £340, £370 DF: £3130, CSF: £6319 Tricast: £366.31 Placepot: £15.60 Quadpot: £13.40

Place 6: £1906. Place 5: £5.75. PLUMPTON

Going: Heavy, Soft in places 12.50: 1. PHAR LESS HASSLE (C MARTEY) 9-4 Jt fav. 2. Newby End 9-4 Jt tav. 3. Bell

bollen 8-1 8 ran. 25 dist. (T McGove

2.00: 1. COOL PERFORMANCE (G Tormey) 1-2 fav: 2. Lord of Love 5-2: 3. Ghost Patt

8-1.4 ran. 17, det. (Mrs D Haine). Tote: £1.50. DF: £170, CSF: £199.

2.35: 1. ROYAL PREDICA (G Tormey) 2-5 fav; 2, Kelly Mac 11-4; 3, Old Archives 14-1 4 ran. 1 /4, dist. (M Pipe). Tota: £130. DF: 2130 CSF: £182. Only three finished - revised penalty value \$2,915.00.

3.05: 1. SHANAGORE WARRIOR (Civis Webb) 6-4 tav; 2. River Gala 5-1; 3. Holy Sting 5-1 5 ren. 27, dist. (S Mellor). Tota: £2.30; £1.20 CSF: £7.59. Non Runner: Brook

3.35: 1. ZAFARELLI (R Farrant) 5-1; 2. Nes-sun Doro 2-1 fav: 3. Milimount 9-2. 7 ran.

sun Doro 2-1 lav; 3. Millimount 9-2. 7 ran. 6, 5 (J. Jenkins). Tota: £440; £190. £180. DF: Placepot: 262.60. Quedpot: 52.50. £3.20; £140, £160, £240, OF: £310, CSF: £545 Place 5: 94215, Place 5: 93091

7.12 * 5

in the property

THE STREET

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Sailor

sparks

Leeds

revival

Barneveld

accent on

cockney's

double top

DARTS

THE TOP-SEEDED Dutchman.

Raymond Barneveld, will be attempting to become only the

second player to successfully

defend his title at the Em-

bassy World Championship,

which begins at Frimley Green

Eric Bristow, the legendary

"crafty cockney" and "Arkle of darts", who won the champi-

onship in 1980 and 1981 and

again from 1984 to 1986,

achieved the feat twice, and

Barneveld would dearly like to

The Dutchman, now 31, be-

lieves he is playing better now

than when he won the title 12 months ago. Then he was still

working as a postman but after collecting a £40,000 cheque for

winning the Embassy he

turned professional a month

was a postman and I did not

play as much darts as I would

"Now I can take my three

"But I am lucky. I am one of

children to school, spend far

more time with them and also

those players who doesn't need

to practise for eight hours a day.

I like to relax before my

matches and only pick up my

man Richie Burnett. But he

have liked," he said.

play a lot more darts.

"I used to get up at six o'clock in the morning when I

join him in the record books.

and injury, o confirm

have to

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e 6ft 10in

play all 40

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ישוקובלו זינוני

me men-

Castleford were 21-4 ahead and on their way to a moraleboosting win when, 16 minutes into the second half, the Brishane Broncos and Australia wing playing the second of his heliday games for his adopted club, fielded a kick deep in his own half.

His strength took him through a congested midfield and then his pace saw him beat the defence to the corner

"I haven't been playing well," said Sailor, who lost the ball for one of Castleford's tries. "I just needed a really good run and when I beat the first defender and saw some space in front of me I just pinned back my ears."

It was not just the try, but its spectacular nature, that lifted Leeds. "I don't think there's many players in the world who could score a try like that," said Iestyn Harris, the Leeds captain. "It shows his class if he can make something out of nothing and it really sparked our comeback."

RUGBY LEAGUE

with his goal-kicking, also played a major role in the rescue act. Both he and the young second-rower, Gareth Carvell, kept the ball alive for Adam Hughes to go in for the first of his two tries and Harris himself then got around the outside of the defence for the four points that brought Leeds within range.

Switched to stand-off for the final quarter, Harris also provided the long pass that skimmed Darren Rogers's fingertips but put Hughes in the clear. He could not land the conversion, but with four minutes remaining, he put over the penalty, awarded against Lee Harland for stealing the ball, that gave Leeds the lead

In injury time, Ryan Sheridan, another major contributor to Leeds's fightback, found a gap and the home side, for all their early problems, were safe. "I'm not down-hearted, be-

for the first time.

cause for 60 minutes we were Harris, although off-form the better side and a lot of good



The Castleford defence finds Brian McDermott, the Leeds prop, difficult to stop at Headingley yesterday

Andrew Varley

things cam out of it," said Castleford's acting coach, Graham Steadman.

His side were certainly in command during the first half, with Dean Sampson leading from the front and the former Leeds player, Francis Maloney, orchestrating the back-line

It was Sampson who scored the first try, driving over after only two minutes, and he was also involved in the build-up when Danny Orr's pass sent Ian Tonks over midway through

Kevin Sinfield, just 18-yearsold, pulled one back for Leeds. showing that he already knows and then supplied the pass

exactly how to run on to that enabled, Rogers, another of that quality and he came up Harris's passes, and Leeds could feel relieved to be only six points behind at the break.

Castleford's new signing, Mike Eagar, and Maloney did the lead up work for Gael Tallec to score early in the second half and Maloney added a drop goal Castleford newcomer to score. Everything was set up for Castleford to claim a result that they always enjoy, no

matter what the nature of the

'We have kept Sailor pretty quiet, but you only need one

chance when you've got players

trumps for them," Steadman said.

Leeds: Harris; Sailor, Hughes, Godden. Cummins; Pratt, Sheridan; Field, Jackson, McDermott, Carvell, Glanville, Sinfield. Substitutes used: Lawford. Golden. Chapman, Wainwright, Jones, Ward. tleford: Flowers; Gay, Wells, Eagar, ers: Maloney, Orr. Sampson, Dobson, is. Hill, Tonks, Harland, Substitutes d: Eilis, Riley, Tallec, Lynch.

darts for a few throws about two hours before I'm due on stage."

Barneveld was also
Embassy runner-up in 1995 when he was beaten by Welsh-

gained revenge by beating Burnett 6-5 in a breath-taking final last year. He is clearly a man in form. Only last week Barneveld won the British Open with a 2-0 victory over Peter Manley, of Sur-

> rey, in the final. Many people believe the Skol World Darts Championship, being staged at Purfleet, is the superior event in world darts because they have most of the better known players in their 32-

strong field. However, it is not that simof a top-three place in his first ple. The Embassy has far greater strength in depth and for the past four years has consistently produced the better averages. It also has far better prize money - £167,200 compared with £97,000 - at Purfleet, with a first prize of £42,000 as against £30,000 in the Skol

> event. Four world champions will be in the field. They are Barneveld, Burnett, Steve Beaton, who won in 1996, and Les Wallace, the 1997 winner

Radcliffe and Brown delve into Durham mud

DURHAM'S ANNUAL crosscountry race is assured a captive audience when it starts this morning. The course for the IAAF World Cross Challenge event is overlooked by Durham Jail. If any of the 1,200 inmates are allowed to take a peek, BBC Grandstand - are likely to witness two highly competitive races in which home hopes will rest with Paula Radcliffe

and Jon Brown. Radcliffe, who won her first

ATHLETICS

BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

pion last month, faces a field which includes the 1996 world cross-country champion, Geta Sandell of Finland, runner-up in this year's European race, and Joyce Chepchumba of Kenya, the 1997 London Marathon champion.

The 25-year-old Bedford run-

altitude training environment of Font Romeu while recovering from a cold. "I took things a little easier than usual in training," she said. Presumably that meant cutting down to around 100 miles a week.

take to the mud seeking her third victory in the event, although she is not taking anything for granted. "It's going to be a very tough race," she said, adding that Chepchumba, who senior title when she became ner has spent a formight at her edged Liz McColgan out of a appears likely to prove the

new apartment in the high second London title after a main obstacle to Brown win-The Mall, could be the one to watch out for. Wami has already proven

herself at the highest level, and if Radcliffe had been even faintly forgetful of her ability the es will have restored after their race in Brussels a week after Radcliffe won her title, when Wami won and the British runner was a distant fourth.

Another Ethiopian runner

compelling final sprint down ning a third consecutive Durham race - the world junior 5,000 metres champion, Million Wolde.

The 19-year-old appears to have been presciently named; in his home country he is being ribed as the man mo likely to follow in the footsteps of his illustrious - and very rich - compatriot, Haile Gebrse-

Richard Nerurkar, preparing himself for the London Marathon, will also provide a

the former Olympic 10,000 metres champion, Khalid Skah and Kenya's Thomas Nyariki, fourth in the last world cham-

challenge to Brown, along with

Brown flew back to Britain on Monday from his home base since he broke Eamonn Martin's 10-year-old British 10.000m record at the Brussels grand prix. "It normally takes me four days to recover from jet

competitive outing in four months. The 1996 European crosscountry champion has also con-

Brown, who is talking in terms

firmed he would be available this year to contest the world for what will be his first race Belfast at the end of March. "If selected," Brown added. As usual, the Durham event

will contain a middle distance event, which this year will feature European indoor 3,000m lag, so I should be okay," said champion, John Mayock

No style change for Reading KTM riders shine in Spain

SPORTING DIGEST

READING, WHO surprised everyone by winning the National Indoor title last February, face strong opposition in their pool in the two-day DTZ Invitation Tournament which starts at two centres in the Midlands today. It will come from Southgate, masquerading as Dunton, another club who have not always taken the indoor

Sadly, Eiko Rott, who was the pillar of Southgate's side which qualified for next weekend's preliminaries of the National Championship, will not be back from Germany in time.

ATHLETICS

ATHLETICS
SAN SEMESTRE 1 SIGM ROLD RACE (São Pardo, Braz) Mens: 1 P Tergat (Ken) 44min 48sec: 2 H. Ramasia (SA) 45:04: 3 E Lagat (Ken) 45:07: 4 5 Guerra (EC) 45:16: 3 J (Ken) 45:07: 4 5 Guerra (EC) 45:16: 3 J (Ken) 45:07: 45 Guerra (Bra) 45:37: 7 J de Souza (Bra) 45:57: 8 G de Asis (Bra) 46:05. Williamsen: 1 O Levitc (Slovak) 5 Imin 35sect: 2 M Tenorio (EC) 51:55: 3 J Wan-Bu Ngotho (Ken) 52:42: 4 E de la Fuente (Cule) 53:33: 5 C Maria Irineu (Bra) 53:56: 6 M Navicoh (Bra) 54:35; 7 W Guerra (Bra) 54:59: 8 R Raimunda Faria (Bra) 55:08.

SHEFFEED SHIELD (First day of four): Hobart: Tesmania 293 for 5 (D) Marsh 77no, 1 Cox 77, 5 Young 76) v Vic-

roria.
REN ZEALAND SQUAD (second Test
v Insila, Hamilton, today): 5 P Fleming
(capt), M J Home, M D Bell, R G Twose,
C D McNillan, A C Parove (wkt), C L Carns,
D J Mash, D E Vettori, 5 B Douil, G I Allott,
P 1 Whenty

P J Wiseman.
BNDIA SOUAD: M Azharuddin (capt). N
S Sidhu, A D Jadeja, V V S Laxman, R S
Dravid, S R Tendulkar, S C Ganguly, N R
Mongja (wkt). A Kumble, J Srinath,
Verkabesh Prasad, R Singh Inr.

FOOTBALL SCOTUSH PREMIER LEAGUE
Stherwell (1)...1 Milmarmock (1)...2
Innan 26 McCost 15
32 McGowne 86

HOCKEY By BILL COLWILL

Dunton, however, expect to

include the Australian internationals Neil Hawgood and Todd Williams, Austrian Grant von Mayer and Trinidad's captain, Kwandane Browne. Their most influential player may still be home-grown Pietro Attala, who will not be available to them in the Nationals.

Reading see the DTZ event as the start of their campaign to put England back into the A Division of the European competition

which they will aim to do in Prague at the end of February, but they seem unlikely to change their style of indoor hockey.

Their manager, Mike Webb, confirmed that they would have a full squad, adding: "We play as we play." International opposition will

come from the Vikings - the Danish national squad. Olton and West Warwick, whose goalkeeper Carl Price collapsed and died during the

Midland qualifier on 19 December have decided to play as a mark of respect to his family and many friends in hockey.

NUMBLE Toronto 4 Detroit 2: Montreal 2 Cal-

gary 1; Chicago 1 NY Islanders 0; Dallas 6 Boston 1; NY Rangers 6 Colorado 3: Philadelphia 6 Vancouver 2.

The final stage of the qualifier, which was postponed when he collapsed, between Barford Tigers, Stourport, Leek and Loughborough Students will be held on Wednesday night at Lilleshall.

The Women's National Indoor League gets under way this weekend with Division One at East Grinstead and Division Two at Loughborough Uni-

Gill Clarke, who umpired the World Cup final in the Netherlands in the summer, has been awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours List.

SKI JUMPING

Martin Schmitt yesterday broke the hill record on home soil at Garmisch-Partendirchen to record his second win after two legs of the Four Hills tournament. The 20-year-old broke

the record by a metre in the second round with a jump of 123m. Schmitt,

who has come from nowhere to win six of the eight events in which he has taken part this season, also claimed the World Cup lead.

FOUR HILLS TOURNAMENT

BAD WEATHER in Southern Spain vesterday forced organisers to replace the 115km first timed stage of the Dakar Rally with a 5km stage held on the same course as Thursday's prologue. Wind and rain prevented the field, which later embarked for a short crossing of the Mediterranean to

Morocco, from battling it out in the hills of Andalucia. The change was to the liking of Dirk Von Zitzewitz, the German KTM rider, as he gained his second consecutive stage victory in the motorcycle section

on a muddy course after win-

ning the prologue. KTM repeated their dominance with nine motorcycles in the leading 10 after placing placing eight machines in the first 10 of the prologue.

In the car section, the Spaniard Miguel Prieto pleased local fans with a fastest time of 5min 47sec, edging the race favourites, Kenjiro Shinozuka of Japan and France's Jean-Pierre Fontenay. The trio were driving Mitsubishis, Shinozuka and Fontenay, the 1997 and 1998 race winners respec-

the prologue.

The race will start in earnest today, with the 654km second stage from Rabat to Agadir including a 100km timed section.

Mitsubishi, winners of the last two Dakar rallies, were confirmed as favourites to make it three in a row when Shinozuka won the prologue. Shinozuka and the Frenchman Henri Magne won in 5min 11sec on a muddy 5km timed section near Granada.

The Frenchman Jean-Louis Schlesser in his Schlesser-Renault Megane, was second

tively, were first and second in fastest and is likely to be a main threat to the Mitsubishis. Fontenay was third, with Mitsubishi placing six cars in the

top 10.

DAKAR RALLY (Granada, Sp.) First stage: Cars: 1 M Prieto (Sp.) Mitsubshit Smin 47sec; 2 K Shinozuka (Japan) Mitsubshi +3sec: 3 J-P Fontenay (Fr.) Mitsubishi +10: 5 J M Servia (Sp.) Schlesser +12: 6 H Masuoka (Japan) Mitsubishi +14: 7 G de Mevius (Bel) Nissan +15: 8 S Peterhansel (Fr.) Nissan same time: 9 C Souza (Por) Mitsubishi +21: 1 G S Servia (Sp.) Nissan +22: Motorcycles: 1 D Von Zitzewitz (Ger) KTM 5min 25sec; 2 G Sala (It) KTM +5sec; 3 J Mayer (Germany) KTM +6: 4 J Roma (Sp.) KTM s/t: 5 F Fasola (It) KTM +8: 6 R Salnct (Fr.) BMW +10: 7 W Hutten (Neth) +12: 8 K Tialnen (Fin) KTM +13; 9 P Marques (Por) KTM +15: 10 A Perez (Fr.) KTM +17. top 10.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK

"We played with so much heart. We were knackered but fortunately Headley and Gough did it for us." The England cricket captain Alec Stewart.

"We'll enjoy the win because it's been a great effort. We've proved in this game that we can play cricket, we just need to do it more often. Hopefully this is the start."

England's fast bowler

Darren Gough.

"I can't believe it. It looked like slipping away but we did it. My aim was to go out there and bowl aggressively. You just keep going." The other England bowling

hero, Dean Headley.

"Dermot should start running around more." John Gregory, Aston Villa manager, on referee **Dermot Gallagher after** the dismissal of the Aston Villa goalkeeper Michael

Oakes at Blackburn. Gallagher has admitted the red card was a mistake.

"We were pathetic, abysmal,

gutless, disgraceful. If my footballers were bricklayers the house they built would fall down."

Alan Ball, Portsmouth manager, following a 3-0 defeat at Ipswich Town.

> "Perhans now he will grow up."

Henry Cooper, the British heavyweight boxing legend, is unimpressed by Prince Naseem Hamed's award of an MBE in the New Year Honours' List.

"It means I'll be opening 20 bottles of champagne on New Year's Eve instead of just 10." The high-living snooker

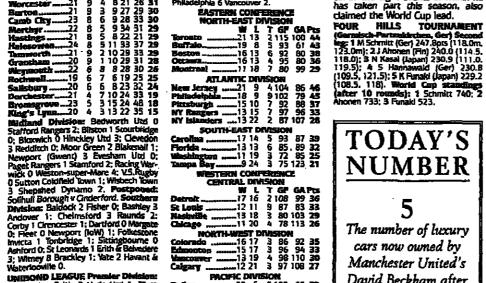
player Jimmy White is keen to celebrate his award of an MBE.

WEDNESDAY'S LOTTERY UPDATE.

Draw date: 30/12/98. The winning numbers: 3, 18, 18, 24, 34, 49. Bonus number: 33. Total Sales: £30,232,121. Prize Fund: £13,604,454 (45% of ticket sales).

CATEGORY	NO, OF WINNERS	EACH WINNER	TOTAL EACH TIER
Match 6 (Jackpot)	3	£1,443,163	£4,329,489
Match 5 plus bonus ball	11	£121,104	£1,332,144
Match 5	530	£1.570	£832.100
Match 4	27.663	£66	£1.825,758
Match 3	527,851	£10	£5,278,510
TOTALS	556,058		£13,598,001
Camelot Group pic. Players must be 16 or	Ovet	Breekage (ph	zes munded down to nearest £1): £6.453

THE NATIONAL LOTTERY Maybe, just maybe. 🌃 in the event of any discrepancy in the above, the data contained in Camelot contral computer system shall provail.



ders 0: Dallas 6

RUGBY LEAGUE

FRIENDLY MATCHES: Huddersfield 28 Halifax 10: Leeds 26 Castleford 21; Rochdale 48 Oldham 10.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of luxury cars now owned by

£220,000 Ferrari for Christmas.

Manchester United's David Beckham after his girlfriend Victoria Adams bought him a



THE SWEEPER

BY CLIVE WHITE AND GRAHAM SNOWDON



Morley tackles a smaller Villa

nether regions of non-Following in the footsteps of Paul Stewart and Chris Waddle comes, this week, the former European Cup and League Championship winner Tony Morley, who turned out for Stratford Town in the Interlink Ex-

45 against ... the Villa. robbed the former Aston Villa and England winger of all his pace and touch because he scored with an early goal on his debut, against a team called Pelsall Villa. But the bard's local team have suffered the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune in the past week with the departure of manager Easton Shaw, his assistant and half a dozen players, and Pelsall came back to win 3-1.

Stratford's chairman Stuart Dixon, whose club face a relegation after just three wins all season, said: "Tony did very well and I would love to see him play regularly. There's no doubt he could do a job for us."

THE VISIT of Liverpool to Vale Park today in the FA Cup revives memories for Port Vale captain Neil Aspin of his formative years in the upper echelons of the game, at Leeds - and tough times they were by all accounts. He recalled how, on one occasion, fellow apprentice Mark Gavin, later of Bolton and Hearts, urinated in the sauna, unaware that first-teamers were due to use it later that day. When they got to hear of it Gavin was rolled around Elland Road car park in a giant wicker basket until he repented. Much worse was the fate suffered by other apprentices, who, for no apparent reason, were tied naked to goalposts in deep winter and pelted with snowballs by the pros while Aspin "cowered out of range somewhere". Not that he is the type to do so, but there will be no hiding place for central defender Aspin

have a hard enough job remaining current withboot in. With freedom of had done for his former Chesterfield proper to glug down the unclaimed contract it's difficult to say who's boss Arthur Cox, now director of prize bottle of New Year's goodwill playing for whom from day to day football at Fulham. I wonder if the himself Cheersh!

today against Owen and co.

Central Coventry, however, may League football this sea- have discovered a way of solving the son continues to grow. problem. The front cover of the Sky Blues' diary for the season has a rather prominent picture of the de-parted "Villan" Dion Dublin on it. So what has the book shop done? Just reversed the cover Darren Huckerby always did look better standing press Midland Alliance at the age of on his head, anyway. It was for a similar reason that a video of Goodison's The years have clearly not greatest goals was not in any Evertonians' stocking this Christmas -Duncan Ferguson graced the box. The makers wisely decided to hold it back rather than risk adding to the Blues' misery over Xmas. Besides, Gary Speed was on the reverse cover - only joking.

> SONG SHEET Optimism still abounds

around Brunton Park, Carlisle. 66 One Fox on the shirt, **Peter Beardsley** scoring, Twenty-three years of going up,

AS ACTS of kindness go down the Fulham Road this festive season, Mohammed Al-Fayed's Harrod's food hampers for out-of-work managers would take some beating by even old greybeard himself, even if the Fulham owner did get the hampers at cost price. His generosity usually comes with strings attached but there appeared to be none with the food parcel gratefully received by Glyn land). The 10th title winner on Chamberlain, sacked by non-FOOTBALL ANNUALS League Newcastle Town going into Christmas but now manager of Congleton Town. It was by way of thanks to come up with the correct winning out Bosman sticking his for scouting work that Chamberlain combination, The Sweeper felt it only

THE NUMBER of famous never mind year to year. An enter- former Everton manager Howard ex-players gracing the prising assistant at Waterstone's in Kendall got a hamper from Peter Johnson.

> CHEATS NEVER prosper, we are told, but not according to Arsène Wenger, leastways not in the FA Cup. So who do you think is the Arsenal manager's tip to win the old competition. Manchester United? Aston Villa? Chelsea? Arsenal? No. His fancy is the team who last Monday, against the Gunners, suffered their seventh consecutive defeat and whose midfielder Nigel Redfearn was branded a cheat by Wenger for al-legedly trying to get Patrick Vieira sent off - Charlton Athletic. It does not say much for Wenger's estimation of the improving Blackburn Rovers side, who, after all, are at home to the Addicks in today's third round.

WITH ALL that Manchester United fans have on their plate, what with European Cup quarter-finals, Premiership title bids, it's amazing that they still have time to spare a thought for their old rivals Manchester City. So with the Maine Road club struggling to make an impact, even in the Second Division, the Reds ask: What does City stand for? Answer. Conference in Two Years.

LAST WEEK we asked

you to name the nine

first-teamers and one reserve at Chelsea who have won championship medals with other clubs. The terrific 10, together with their title-winning teams, are as follows: Ed de Goey (Feyenoord), Dan Petrescu (Steaua Bucharest, Marcel Desailly (Milan), Celestine Babayaro (Anderlecht), Gianluca Vialli (Juventus and Sampdoria), Graeme Le Saux (Blackburn Rovers), Albert Ferrer (Barcelona), Gianfranco Zola (Napoli) and - this is the tricky one - Roberto di Matteo (Aarau, Switzer-Chelsea's books is the reserve goalkeeper Dimitri Kharine (CSKA Moscow). Sadly, as no one was able

AS YOU WERE



THE PRICE IS RIGHT

bet on Arsenal for the title at 5-1 (they won both their games ready down to 4-1) last week. The peeper intends to start the New tub-thumping home bankers in the what could be a grudge match.

A FABULOUS four- third round of the FA Cup today, timer and a shrewd so let's nip in for a seven-match accumulator. And, in tomorrow's Sky game, Manchester United should avenge their recent home over the holiday period and are al- league defeat by Middlesbrough, who are going off the boil and both flanks and in the midfield of ropean Cup as their main objecthe betting shop. There are some tive, but are sure to be up for it in beat Manchester City (1-2).

THE SWEEPER'S STOMPING CERTAINTIES **LIBERO WAGERS** Manchester United v Middles-

(£5 seven-fold accumulator with the Tote): Aston Villa to beat Hull City (1-10); Coventry to beat Macclesfield (2-7); Newcastle to beat Crystal should provide fewer problems Palace (8-15); Nottingham Forest to Year as he finished the old, ter- than Chelsea did on Wednesday. beat Portmouth (8-15); Southampton rorising the local bookie down Alex Ferguson's men have the Eu- to beat Fulham (5-6); West Ham to beat Swansea (1-3): Wimbledon to

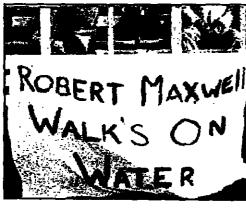
SUNDAY SKY MATCH

Manchester United (£3 to win at 4-6, Tote).

CURRENT KITTY: £118.78!

TODAY'S BETS: £8.72 (including 72p tax paid on).

FROM THE FA CUP ARCHIVES



PLYMOUTH ARGYLE entertain Derby County in a third-round tie today in a repeat of a quarter-final in 1984. On that occasion the Third Division club from Devon won after a replay at the Baseball Ground. Derby, struggling in the old Second Division, were also in deep financial trouble. They were rescued by a cash injection from one Robert Maxwell. His generosity earned the above response from fans at the Baseball Ground. Little did they know...

MY TEAM



MIDDLESBROUGH

Former Coronation Street actor, currently starring in Cinderella at the Gatebouse Theatre, Stafford "Middlesbrough are my home town team. I supported Leeds as a boy in the late 60s, but, since Steve Gibson and Bryan Robson arrived, Middlesbrough has come alive with football. At the FA Cup final in 1997 I was thinking: My God, I can't believe we're at Wembley!' The game itself was a let-down, but it was an occasion for the whole club to be recognised as well as putting the town on the map. I reck-on we'll finish mid-table this season but we won't be fighting relegation, and hopefully next year we can qualify for Europe."

IN T'NET

Found on the Web: Scherp Schutters Soccer Quiz YOU'VE MEMORISED all the answers from the sports edition of Trivial Pursuit your granny got you for Christmas and the puly's quiz machine has smoke coming out of the sides, but still your thirst for mindless football trivia is unsatiated. In which case, point your browser toward the Scherp Shutters, whose mind-bogging variety of multiple choice footy quizzes should keep you guessing to the end. Indeed, The Sweeper must confess to scoring a decidedly average 10 out of 15 on the World Soccer quiz, despite feeling confident that Middlesbrough were not an Australian chib. Go try. http://www.surf.to/soccertrivia

SEEN BUT NOT BOUGHT

FOR SWEET-TOOTHED fans, the holidays have churned up a fabulous if somewhat bizarre selection of chib-connected confectionary. For the Swansea fan who doesn't quite have it all, how about a slab of Swens French Nougat? And a gift box of Blades Chocolate Footballs would surely fill any Sheffield United fan with, well, chocolate. Best of all though, who needs the sweet taste of success when you can savour the even sweeter taste of Plymouth Argyle Fudge?



THEY'RE NOT ALL **DENNIS** BERGKAMP

Unsung foreign legionnaires No 20 BEN IROHA: Experience is one quality that Watford's recently acquired Nigerian World Cup defender is certainly not lacking in any shape or form. The 29-year-old veteran of France 98 and USA 94 became a free agent after leaving the Spanish side, Elche, last summer. His career began in his home country, where he played with distinction for Flash Flamingos and Nationale. Following a spell playing with ASEC Mimosa in the Ivory Coast, Iroba went on to spend three seasons at the Dutch side Vitesse Arnhem, before moving on again to San Jose Clash (pictured left) in the United States. One year on, he was at DC United, where he won an MSL championship medal. A lifelong fan of English football, Iroha considers his greatest assets to be pace and a long

Long-distance admiration for the Wasps

AUGUST 1967. I'm 15 years old, swers. I ask: "What time is perverse and rebellious by na- kick-off?" He replies: "What ture, and I'm at a Jewish sum-time can you get here?" Old gag, mer camp in the wilds of I know, but it started in Alloa. Clackmannanshire.

I'm bored. This is the first day I do remember the police presof the football season and I want ence was restricted to just one to see a match, any match. I officer on horseback whose don't care. The other boys are sole purpose, it seems, was to more religious than me. It's the patrol outside the ground Sabbath, they won't ride or throwing people in If the officarry money, and they certainly won't go to a football match, horse, frankly, looked stoned. It so I'm on my own. The nearest team are Alloa, which sounds dents were feeding it LSD seductively Hawaiian, until you cubes on their way in to the add the Athletic Desperate for ground. I think it was the hapsome action - so desperate, in piest creature there. fact, that had our camp been 500 miles to the north I'd have my team. Not my No 1 team, gladly watched Toftir play Gotu you understand, but my Scotin the Faroe Islands' league -

I go to the match. It's awful. It's Saturday afternoon and I don't remember the result, but cer looked bored, then the was. It turns out a bunch of stu-

tish team. All English football fans have their Scottish team. Alloa, it turns out, are not well Usually it's Rangers or Celtic,

FAN'S EYE **VIEW**

ALLOA

BY PETER MOSS

support winners? Not me, though. As I said, I'm perverse, and as my main team is Luton - I don't even live anywhere near the place, but I go nonetheless - you'll understand From that day on Alioa were what I mean.

Of course, my support for Alloa doesn't lead me to do anything as rash as go and watch them, apart from that one game in '67. That much I leave to the supported. I phone them for the soft options, they win every truly masochistic. But I lend my match details, the goalie an- thing, and don't we all like to support in other ways, mostly

from the vantage point of my button, and the Sunday sports pages. Plus I get their new kit sent to me whenever new sponsorship and a kit change prevails - about three times these

something of an unconsummated affair, rather like Wendy Craig and that nice chap in Butterflies. I gaze on them, or at least their results, but I don't touch. I can't name any of their players, apart from a guy called Irvine who seems to score quite a lot, I've forgotten their manager's name, and I never did know the name of their home ground, though I think it's got the word Park in it. I think I know their nickname: it's The Wasps, isn't it? With yellow and black hooped shirts it seems logical enough, or maybe I've

But despite my vagueness lose their nerve, play like fireside recliner, the teletext no Saturday afternoon ever tossers, and get relegated. passes by without seeing how Alloa got on. Even on my recent sabbatical in Peru, I faxed home each weekend to find

out how my boys had fared. Right now, as I sit at my word My relationship with Alloa is processor - and tell me if this is not the spookiest piece of serendipity - Alloa occupy the exact same position in the exact same division, Scottishly speaking, as Luton, albeit my two teams reached that division by opposite routes. Luton taking an ever downward path.
Alioa being elevated just last
May. I don't know how significant this is, but if nothing else it does demonstrate my predilection for naff teams, as will doubtless be evidenced by the as I recall, and quite the muckimminent slide down the table for which both my teams are fabled. As the saying goes, when the going gets tough, the tough

That was someday back in '67, I don't remember who we played, but I know they were better I forget the score, but I know we lost. I don't recall the attendance, but I do know that if Maxie, Ollie, Mike and the other guys from Tent Six had come with me, the spectators might have had a chance of out-

numbering the players. I do remember, though, that, within 10 minutes of getting back to camp not only was there a food parcel from home awaiting me - enough bagels, smoked salmon and gefilte fish to feed the whole of Alloa - but I'd pulled this girl from Willesden Green, a rabbi's daughter iest girl on the trip. Which only goes to show, if your team can't score, for heaven's sake make

Mallorca enjoy their moment in the sun

WHATEVER THE result of Real Mallorca's match against the bottom club Extremadura tomorrow, the island side will stay top of La Liga, for they have a four-point advantage over Celta Vigo and Valencia.

Mallorca's coach Hector Cuper is not complacent. He said: "The fact that Extremadura are at the bottom is irrelevant. It is not a match we are going to take lightly. They are defensive and can be diffi-

cult to break down." Moreover, in seven away games, Mallorca have not once scored more than a single goal. Nevertheless, Mallorca have led the table for five weeks. The only other time they have topped the league was in the first week of the 1962-63 season,

in which they were relegated. Some reckon the only reason Mallorca are doing well is that for the national squad.

SPANISH FOOTBALL

BY PHIL MINSHULL

La Liga is in a trough and that Real Madrid and Barcelona have been concentrating more on their European campaigns than domestic success. But the truth is that Real Mallorca have a developed a superb defence, which includes the Argentine international goalkeeper Carios Roa Mallorca have let in only six goals this season thanks to his efforts. Many consider him the best

goalkeeper in the world. Roa, however is not the only reason why Mallorca are top. Before this season only one Mallorca player had ever played for Spain, but in recent months Marcelino, Vicente Engonga and Dani have all been called up

Rangers primed to take revenge

IF REVENGE is a dish best BY DAVID MCKINNEY served cold the supporters of Rangers will turn up at Ibrox tomorrow hoping to see the football equivalent of Ready Steady Cook. Each one will harbour a desire to see their side wreak a terrible vengeance for the 5-1 reverse they suffered the last time these teams met. There is also the thorny problem of Celtic holding the league title that resided with Rangers for nine years.

Back in November few observers gave Celtic any chance with Rangers playing well at the time and Celtic struggling, but their 5-1 victory merely confirmed what we already know. hat of all derby matches this he defles prediction.

Rangers hold a 10-point advantage over their great rivals so they know that a win would just about see off the challenge of the defending champions. The size of any winning margin. however, would appear to be less important for the players than the fans.

"People are asking me to help us win 6-0 or 6-1," claimed Giovanni van Bronckhorst, the Dutch midfielder, "but the important thing is that we do win even if it by one goal. A 13-point gap is very big and would give much confidence for the rest of the season."

Van Bronckhorst is one of an increasing number of foreign players whose arrival in Scotland is seen as a prime reason for the reduction in the passion with which this game is played. It is conceivable that Rangers could take the field with Barry Ferguson and Colin Hendry the only Scots in their starting line-up. Dick Advocaat, the Rangers coach, believes his players are well aware of the

importance of the occasion. "If my players don't have pride in their performance and a different attitude from the last game they don't know the importance of this one. Some of the players have had to learn that because there aren't so many Scottish players here but the stots were furious after the last game, not only because we

lost but the way in which we did. "We have also seen how im-The Celtic fans were excep-

tional at Celtic Park, intimidating our players and encouraging their own from the start. Our fans can do that too."

Games are of course won by players with this particular fixture held up as the epitome of the Scottish game, yet too often it has failed to live up to its billing with the tensions of the occasion suffocating freedom of expression. Things have improved with the arrival of so many foreigners and the outstanding display at Celtic Park came from Lubomir Moravcik.

The Slovakian midfielder demonstrated skill and vision beyond his £300,000 transfer fee as he masterminded the destruction of Rangers who had been reduced to 10 men.

The man who brought Moravcik to Scotland, Josef Venglos, has seen his side unbeaten in the two matches with Rangers this season, the first ending 0-0, and although a relative newcomer to Scotland, he can already appreciate the particular nature of the fixture.

Graeme Souness, on his appointment as Rangers manager, caused uproar among Ibrox legions by suggesting he would accept four defeats by Celtic if Rangers were to win the title yet perhaps this season the Rangers supporters can appreciate the sentiment of that

Venglos tuned in to the nature of this game."This is a specific and unique derby. It causes excitement for the fans, and people from outside the country are also interested in the result.

"Sunday will be a different game from the last one and will require a different approach from the players. Every game has a different history and this one is unpredictable with small things able to turn the game. But I believe in the quality of my players, they know the important games and they know how to prepare themselves."

It is the nature of these fixtures that virtually every Old Firm game has a bearing on the destination of the title and if Rangers do exact revenge for that November defeat Celtic's portant the spectators can be. first title defence in a decade will effectively be over.





The Rangers coach, Dick Advocaat (left), and his Celtic counterpart, Josef Venglos, know just how much there

McGowne boosts Kilmarnock

KEVIN MCGOWNE'S dramatic BY SIMON BUCKLAND late strike ensured Kilmarnock's New Year resolution of maintaining a title bid remained on course with victory against Motherwell yesterday.

The Fir Park outfit offer cutprice admission at Fir Park for all but the Old Firm's visits, but the team give nothing away and looked to have secured a wellearned point. Yet Billy Davies' men missed several second-half chances, and this proved to their cost when McGowne's stunning shot from distance snatched an unlikely Kilmarnock win with just four

minutes remaining. The visitors had moved ahead early in the first half through the familiar figure of with time and space at his dis-Ally McCoist, but they lost posal However the striker was

connection enabled Stevie Kilmarnock Woods to gather.

After 15 minutes, Kilmarmomentum after Motherwell nock were ahead, Ian Durrant levelled through Ged Branreleasing his former Rangers nan's well-taken header. colleague McCoist, who de-Kilmarnock held feated Woods with an angled though, when under pressure drive just inside the far post.

and their reward was a victory McCoist threatened again which kept them in second in Kilmarnock's next attack seemed to have settled for a place in the Scottish Premier with a near post effort clutched by Woods, but the Ayrshire out-League, tucked in between the leaders, Rangers, and the fit were unable to build on their lead. After 27 minutes, they The visitors should have paid the price as Motherweil moved ahead after just eight levelled when Michel Doesminutes when Gary Holt's burg's precise cross from the left picked out Brannan, whose header fell invitingly for Paul Wright inside the six-yard box firm downward header levelled

Midway through the second

unable to connect with the half, Motherwell's Owen Coyle power he wanted and his loose should have done better when presented with a genuine opening, but he dragged his attempt badly wide of goal when in position to do more.

With 11 minutes remaining, McCoist headed in Holt's cross, but the flag had already gone up for offside before he had even made contact. Kilmarnock point, but from nowhere Mc-Gowne emerged to strike a blow from deep that left Motherwell down and out at the last. erwell (nown and out at the last. Motherwell: Woods; McGowan, Brannan (Adams, 81), Valakarl. Coyle, Michels, Thomas, McCufloch, Doesburg, Marthaei, Neim, Substitutes not used: Mry, Craigan, Ramsey, Bannister (gk). Ribmarmock: Marshall; MacPherson, Mont-gomerie, McGower, Reilly, Hok, Witght, Dur-rant, Mitchell, McColst, Baker, Substitutes not used: Mahood, Roberts, Lauchlan. Burke, Strain (gk). Referee: K Oark (Palsiey).

WEEKEND FIXTURE GUIDE AND POOLS CHECK

TODAY

FOOTBALL

3.0 unless stated FA CUP THIRD ROUND Blackburn v Charlton 4 Bournemouth v West Bromwich 5 Bradford City v Grimsby 6 Bristol City v Everton 7 Bury v Stockport...... 8 Cardiff v Yeovil 9 Coventry v Macclesfield

10 Crewe'v Oxford Utd

11 Rushden v Leeds (all ticket) ... 12 Leicester v Birmingham (all tic 12 Leicester v Birmingham (all ticket)
13 Lincoln City v Sunderland
13 Lincoln City v Sunderland
14 Newcastle v Crystal Palace
15 Pottingham Forest v Portsmouth
16 PR v Huddersfield

Oldham v Chelsea ...

MATIONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE SECOND DIVISION 29 Burnley v Walsalf...... 30 Colchester v Luton 31 Gillingham v Blackpool 32 Reading v Chesterfield

THIRD DIVISION Brentford v Barnet ... Carlisie v Éxeter 33 Chester v Southend

SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE Dundee v Dundee Utd 38 Dunfermline v Hearts 33 St Johnstone v Aberdeen SCOTTISH LEAGUE PIRST PIVISION

Falkirk v Airdrie. **©** Greenock Morton v St Mirren 43 Hibernian v Raith SCOTTISH CUP SECOND ROUND Carl Service Strollers v Albion (1.45) Raibeacoe Star v East Stirling (1.30) ss CT v Livingston ...

With Brechin

Morrose v Stirling

Artick Thisde v Cowdenbeath teen of the South v Ross County Queen's Pack v Clachnacucidin FOOTBALL COMPERENCE

5 Dover & Welling......

.

48 Hereford v Kiddenminster 48 Hereros Leek v Doncaster Woking v Kingstonian

FA CARLSBERG VASE Third round:

FA CARLSBERG WASE Third round: Barkingside v Oldbury Und; Middeover Sports v Bedfington Terriers.

RYBAN LEAGUE Premier Division: Aldershot v Dulwich; Bilsericay v Bromley; Bishop's Stortford v Basingstoke (at Hitchin); Chesham v Carshalton; Gravesend v Aylesbury; Hampton v Harrow Borough; Hendon v Boreham Wood; Purfleet v Enfeld: Slough v Heydridge; St Abars v Walton & Hersham; Sutton Utd v Dagenham & Reffivides First Division: Barton field: Slough v Heybridge: Sr. Albans v Walton & Hersham: Satton Utd v Dagenham & Redbridge. First: Diskslote: Barton Rovers v Usbridge: Bognor Regis v Molescy; Braintree v Staines; Chertsey v Grays: Croydon v Worthing; Leyton Pennant v Berkhamsted; Oxford City v Leatherhead; Romford v Hitchin; Wealdstone v Maldenhead Utd; Whyteleafe v Canwey Island; Yeading v Wernbley, Seconad Diskslote: Chalfont St. Peter v Banstead; Harlow v Metropolitan Police; Hertford v Barking; Horsham v Waltenhoe; Hungerford v Edgware. Leighton v Abingdon Town; Northwood v Windsor & Eron; Thame v Bedford Town; Tooting & Mitcham v Bracknell; Witham v Hernel Hempstead; Wokingham v Mariow. Taind Diskslote; Camberley Town v Abeley; Cheshunt v Ting; Clapton v Egham; Corinthan-Casuals v Tilbury; East Thurnock v Ware; Epsom & Ewell v Croydon Athletic Flackwell Heath v Dorking; Ford Utd v Wingste & Finchley; Kingsbury v Hornchurch; Lewes v Southall.

Southali.

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division:
Accrington Stanley v Winsford; Altrincham
v Gulseley: Bishop Auddand v Spennymoor;
Chorley v Bamber Bridge; Colveyn Bay v
Worksop; Emley v Marine; Frickley v
Gateshead; Gainsborough v Runcarn;
Lancaster v Blyth Spartans; Leigh RMI v
Whitby: First Division; Alfreton v Lincoln
Utd; Burscough v Trafford; Droylsden v
Belper; Flotton v Stocksbridge PS; Gretna v Ashton; Hudmall v Confeton; Matlock v Whitley Bay, N etherfield Kendal v
Harrogate Town; Radcliffe Borough v Great
Harwood; Witton Albion v Eastwood
Town.

Harwood; Witten Jacket V Earlier Divisions Bromsgrose v Dordsetter: Cambridge City v Salisbury; Gloucester v Rothwell; Granthant v Halesowen; Hastings v Athestone: Weymouth v Worcester. Midland Divisions Onderford v VS Ruggy; Eusham Und v Bloowich; Hindley Utd v Moor Green; Redditch v Paget Rangers; Shepshed Dynamo v Sofbuill Borough; Stafford Rangers v Clevedon: Stamford v Bedworth; Sutton Coldfield v Newport (Gwent). Seotiar Division: Andower v Corby. Ashford v Dartford: Brackley v St. Leonards, Erith & Behvedere v Baldock; Fisher v Bashley Newport (IoW) v Sittingbourne; Raunds v Yate.

WINISTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE Promier Division: Chatham v Hythe: Cray Wanderers v Lordswood: Greenwich Bor-Wanderers v Deal; Herne Bay v Crockenhilt: ough v Deal; Herne Bay v Crockenhilt: Ramsgate v VCD Athletic, Thamesmead v Canterbury; Tunbridge Wells v Erith; Whit-stable v Slade Green.

Stable v Slade Green.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES
LEAGUE Premier Division: Buckingham
fown v Boston Town: Cogenhoe v Stewarts & Lloyds Corby: Desborough v Holbeach: Ford Sports v Weilingborough:
Kempston v Bynesbury. Long Buckby v St
Neots: Northampton Spencer v Bourne:
Spalding v Blackstone; Wootton v Stotfold; Yaxley v Potton.

UNIDET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE OWINE SUPPLEMENT OF THE PROMOTE STREET OF THE STREET OF TH Fourth round; Saltdean v Chichester.
SCRENIFIX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier
Division: Bideford v Paulton; Bishop Surton v Taunton; Bridgwater v Westbury.
Bridport v Brislington: Bristol Manor
Farm v Melkisham; Caine v Odd Down;
Chippenham v Yeovli; Elmore v Keynsham;
Mangotsfield v Tiverton.
NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE
First Division: Atherton LR v Ciliberos:

NORTH WESTERN TRAINS LEAGUE First Division: Atherton LR v Cikheroe; Cheadle v Salford; Glossop North End v Atherton Collieries; Kidsgrove v Rams-bottom; Maine Road v Leek CSOB: Prescot Cables v Holiker Old Boys; Rosendale v Nantwich: St Helens v Mossley; Vauxhali GM v Newcastle Yown; Workington v Boo-rie

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE Premier Division: Armthorpe Welfare v Denaby: Brigg v Hallam; Buxton v Glasshoughton Welfare: Eccleshill v Liv-ersedge; Garforth v Thackley; Ossett Al-bion v Staveley MW; Pickering v Maltby, Pontefract v Arnold; Selby v Ossett Town; Sheffield v North Ferriby.

Sheffield v North Ferriby.

JEWISON EASTERN LEAGUE Promier

Divisions: By v Stowmarket: Gorleston v
Bury Town; Histon v Halstead; Ipswich
Wanderers v Soham; Lowestoft v Sudbury
Wanderers: Maldon v Warboys; Newmarket v Harwich & Purkesson; Sudbury
Town v Woodbridge; Watton v Febissowe.
ASPACTT INSIDEANCE MORTHERN ARNOTT INSURANCE NORTHERN LEAGUE First Division: Bedlington Yer-LEAGUE First Dhiston: Bedlington Ferriers v Easington; Billingham Town v Morpeth: Consett v Marske; Crook v Stockton: Newcastle Blue Star v Guisborough; Pennith v West Auckland: Seaham Red Star v Jarrow Rooling: Shidon v Billingham Synthonia: South Shields v Chester-le-Street, Tow Law v Dunston FB. PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND

PRESS & JOURNAL HIOHLAND LEAGUE: Buckle Thistle v Deveronsale; Cove Rangers v Fraserburgh; Eigin City v Losslemouth; Fort William v Roches; Naim County v Forres Mechanics; Wick Academy v Brora Rangers.

SMIRTNOFF IRISH LEAGUE Presider Division: Cliftonville v Ballymena; Coleraine v Gientoran; Crusaders v Portadown; Gienavon v Newry; Linfield v Omagh Town. First. Divisione Ballydare v Dungannon Swifts; Bangor v Limavady Ucd; Distillery v Ards; Larne v Carrick. v Ards: Lartie v Carrick.

v Ards; Lame v Carrick.

LEAGUE OF WALPS: Alan Lido v Aberys-bwyth (2.30); Bangor City v Caersaws (2.30); Carmarthen Town v Inter Cable-Tel Cardiff (2.30); Connah's Ossay v Royl (2.30); Noly-well v Caernarfon Town (2.30); This Liansand-fraid v Haverfordivest (2.30). Post-poned: Barry Town v Cwmbran. RUGBY UNION 3.0 unless stated ALLIED DUNBAR

r v Bath (2:0) ... London Scottish v Harlequins Sale v Northamoton PREMIERSHIP TWO: Electer v London Webb: Fride v Rugby (2.0): Moseley v Bris-tol: Wakefield v Rotherham (2.30): Wa-terho v Blackheath (2.15): Worcester v Ornell (2.30). JEWISON NATIONAL LEAGUE ONE: Camberley v Reading (2.30); Harrogate v Newbury (2.15); Henley v Otley (2.0); Manchester v Birmingham/Sollhull (2.15); Morley v Lydney: Nottingham v Rosslyn Park; Whar fedale v Liverpool St Helens (2.15); Timo North: Hindkey v Sourbridge (2.30); Kendel v Winnington Park (2.15); Lichifield v Aspatria (2.30); Preston Grasshoppers v Nuneaton (2.15); Sondal v New Brighton (2.15); Sedgley Park v Sheffield (2.30); Whitchurch v Walsall (2.30); Timo Souths: Bridgwater v Eshe; Havant v Cifton (2.30); Metropolitan Police v Barking; Norwich v Plymouth (2.15); Isbard v North Walsham (2.15); Westonsuper-Mare v Bredmell.

champions, Celtic.

SWALEC CUP Fourth round Group I: Cwmavon v Bedwas (2.30). WELSH NATIONAL LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION
Aberavon v Pontypridd (2.30) Bridgend v Neath (2.30) Lianelli v Caerphiliy (2.30) Newport v Ebbw Vale (5.30)

super-Mare v Brackneti

FIRST DIVISION (2.30): Bonymaen v Tredegar: Cross Reys v Pontypool: Maesteg v Abertillery, Merthyr v Dumant: Newbridge v Rumney; South Wales Po-lice v Blackwood; Tondu v Treorchy; UWIC v Llandovery. ANGLO-WIESH FRIENDLES Cardiff v Leicester (2.30) Swansea v Richmond (2.30)

AIB LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION Galwegians v Young Munster (2.30) Shannon v Buccaneers (2.30) St Mary's v Garryowen (2.30) Terenure v Lansdowne (2.30) SECOND DAY/SION (2.30): DLSP v Dungannon: Derry v UCC; Greystones v Dolphin; Malone v Skerries; Old Crescent v Old Weisey: Portadown v Ballynahinch; Sunday's Weil v Becche Rangers; Wandards v Unid Relundra

BANK OF SCOTLAND BORDER LEAGUE: Jed-Forest v Gala (2.0); Met-rose v Selkirk (2.0). HOCKEY

derers v Old Belvedere.

DTZ INVITATION INDOOR TOURNA-MENT (Cocks Moors Woods LC, Birmingham, 9.30-7.30) and (Whire Forest Glades Arena, Kidderminster, 9.30-7.30). PREMIER HOLIDAYS EAST UNDER

bridge SC 9.30-3.30).

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE First Division (East Griastead SC): Ealing v Bradford (9.20): Sutton Coldfield v Old Loughtonians (10.30): Woking v Wimbledon (11.40): Exmouth v Canterbury (12.50); Lekester v Ealing (1.50); Bradford v Sutton Coldfield (2.40): Old Loughtonians v Woking (3.30); Wimbledon v Exmouth (4.20): Canterbury v Lekester (5.10). Second Division (Loughborough Univ): Sheffield v St Albans (9.20); Loughborough Soudents v Liverpool (10.30); Aldridge v Clifton (11.40); Trojans v Portishead Firebrands (12.50); St Austell v Sheffield (1.50); St Albans v Loughborough Soudents (2.40); Albans v Loughborough Students (2,40): Liverpool v Aldridge (3,30); Clifton v Tro-lans (4,20); Portishead Firebrands v St Auscell (5,10).

BASKETRALL **BUDWESER LEAGUE:** London Towers v Derby Storm (7.30): Newcastle Eagles v Sheffield Sharks (7.0): Thames Valley Tigers v Chester Jets (8.0). UNI-BALL TROPHY Group A: Man-chester Glants v Milton Keynes Lions (7.0); Worthing Bears v Leicester Riders (8.0). Group B: Birmingham Bullets v Greater London Leopards (7.0).

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Bracknell Bees v London Knights (6.0); Mottingham Panthers v Sheffield Steelers (7.0).

OTHER SPORTS ATHLETICS: iAAF Cross Challenge Serie (Durham) DARTS: Skot PDC World Championship (Circus Tavern, Purfleet): Embassy World Championship {Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green}. SNOKER: Qualifying for Regal Scot-tist/British Open/Embassy World Champ-lonship (Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL FA CUP THIRD ROUND Manchester Urd v Middlesbrough (4.0)... Port Vale v Liverpool (2.0) SCOTTISH PREMIER LEAGUE ngers v Celtic (6.05).....

DR MARTENS LEAGUE Premier Divi-sion: Bath City v likeston; Burton Albion v Boston Utd; King's Lynn v Gresky Rovers. Nuneaton v Merthyr; Tamworth v Crawv Boston Utti: Angs sym v Gresey rovers.
Nuneaton v Merchyr: Tamworth v Crawley Town (2.0). Midland Division: Blakenal! v Racing Warwick. Southern
Division: Crencester v Folkestone invicta; Havant & Waterlooville v Chelmsfort;
Margate v Fleet; Tonbridge v Witney. HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE OF IRELAND Premier Division: Bray Wan-derers v UCD (3.15); Cork City v Silgo Rovers (2.0): Derry City v Waterford (3.15); Dundalk v Bohemans (3.15); Shamrock Rovers v Finn Harps (3.15).

RUGBY LEAGUE PRIENDLY MATCHES: Hull v Chico Jackson Select (3.15); Hunslet v Bramley (4.0).

RUGBY UNION ALLIED DUNBAR Saracens v Bedford (3.0) West Hartlepool v Wasps (3.0) ..

PREMIERSHIP TWO: Coventry v Leeds TENNENT'S VELVET TRI-SERIES; Edinburgh Reivers v Glasgow Caledonia [2.0] (at Netherdale, Gala). HOCKEY

DTZ INVITATION INDOOR TOURNA MENT Fleats (Wyr Forest Gades Are-na. Hidderminster, 9,33-4.30). Plate Finels (Cocks Moors Woods LC, Birm-ingham, 9,30-4.30). PREMIER HOLDRYS EAST UNDER-21 COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP Loughtonians HC, 9.30-3.30).

WOMEN'S INDOOR LEAGUE First Division (East Grinsband SC): Sutton Colificid v Wolding (9.20); Ewnouth v Leicester (10.30): Bradford v Oid Loughtonlans (11.40): Wimbledon v Canterbury (12.50); Ealing v Sutton Coldfield (1.50): Wolding v Ewnouth (2.40): Leicester v Bradford (3.30): Oid Loughtonians v Wimbledon (4.20): Canterbury v Ealing (5.10). Second Division (Loughborough Univ): Loughborough Students v Alchiedge (9.20): Trojans v St. Austell (10.30): St. Albans v Liverpool (11.40): Crifton v Portishead Firebrands (12.50): Shefffeld v Loughborough Students (1.50): Aldridge v Trojans (2.40): St. Austell v St. Albans (3.30): Liverpool v Clifton (4.20): Portishead Firebrands v Sheffield (5.10).

BASKETBALL UNI-BALL TROPHY Group B: Greater London Leopards v Edinburgh Rocks

SEKONDA SUPERLEAGUE: Ayr Scottish Eagles v London Knights (6.30): Man-chester Storm v Brachnell Bees (6.0): New-castle Riverkings v Nottingham Panthers (6.30): Sheffield Steelers v Cardiff Devils (6.30).

OTHER SPORTS DARTS: Skol PDC World Championship (Circus Tavern, Purificet); Embassy World Championship (Lakeside Country Club, Frimley Green). SNOOKER: Qualifying for Regal Scot-tish/British Open/Embassy World Cham-plonship (Norbreck Castle Hotel, Blackpool).

> THIS WEEK'S TRANFERS

FULL TRANSFERS Free transfers or undisclosed fees uniess stated

Askley Ward (forward) Barnsley to Blackburn (54.5m); Didler Domi (defender) Paris St-Germain (Fr) to Newcastle (£3.25m); Steve Davis (defended) to the paris (55.000) (defender) Litton to Burnley (£750,000); Jean-Guy Wallemme (defender) Coven-try to Sochaux (£400,000); Morten by to Socraux (±400,000); morroen Hylgaard (goalkeeper) likast (ben) to Coventry (±200,000); Ledek Miklosko (goalkeeper) West Ham to Queen's Park Rangers; Peter Beardsley (forward) Bolton to Hardepool; Michael Madar (forward) Everton to Parls St-Germain; Nicola Berri (midfielder) Tottenham to Alawes (So). Vaves (Sp).

Lee Sharpe (winger) Leeds to Sampdo-ria (It): Stefano Gloacchini (forward) Venezia (It) to Coventry, Derek Lilley (for-ward) Leeds to Hearts; Neale Fenn (forward) Tottenham to Lincoln City: Pete

Robson ready as United aim to bounce back

what it means to lift the FA Cup. Three times with Manchester United, the former England captain climbed the famous 39 steps at Wembley to be handed the most recognisable

of sporting trophies. But now the Middlesbrough manager is plotting glory from the sidelines, and this year's third round draw could hardly have presented a bigger hurdle. Boro travel to Old Trafford tomorrow with the challenge of victory there a fortnight ago, but knowing that Alex Ferguson's side will be determined to re-

store their bruised pride. "They don't get any tougher than at Old Trafford in the FA Cup, but everybody is looking forward to it," said Robson. "It will give the United lads that little bit of edge. They'll be disappointed that they got beaten by us at their own ground, so there'll be that little bit more of

FEW KNOW better an incentive to make sure that than Bryan Robson we don't beat them again. In saying that, United is a difficult place to go at any time. The FA Cup has a great tradition and the United players will want to win it as much as the league.

"We're just going there to enjoy the day. We know it's going to be a tough game."

Boro were going well in the Premiership before the double setback last weekend, and still have hopes of qualifying for Europe through the league. And Robson insists that, whatever happens tomorrow, the FA Cup repeating their sensational 3-2 will not get in the way of the week-to-week business.

"The year that we got relegated, we were in both cup finals and if you're in both competitions right up to the final and you get replays, then you get a backlog," he said.

"It's difficult for the players to keep pace with all the games. But when you've only got the league and the FA Cup, your players can get enough rest and you can go on two fronts."

MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE TO TOMORROW'S AND MONDAY'S THIRD-ROUND MATCHES

Sheff Wed v Norwich (Sun)

W: 1896, 1907, 35 Cup best Semi-final: 1959, 89, 92

THE Sheffield Wednesday manager, Danny Wilson, must wait for an all clear from striker Andy Booth before deciding on his line-up to face Norwich at Hillsborough. Booth turned an ankle in the 2-0 defeat at Aston Villa on Monday but managed to complete the

The Wednesday manager will have to decide which system to use having switched to

forced to revert to a back four by the sending off of Dejan Ste-The Norwich manager,

the Villa match until he was

Bruce Rioch, is set to stick with an unchanged side but will be without the services of Craig Bellamy, who is still out with the knee injury suffered against Wolves. The striker Keith O'Neill will also miss out because of a hamstring injury.

using three centre-backs for Man Utd v Middlesbro (Sun)

DWIGHT YORKE will return for Manchester United against Middlesbrough after recovering from a groin strain

which kept him out for all but an hour of the last five games. With Yorke rejoining Andy Cole in the United attack. Paul Scholes is likely to drop into midfield to partner Roy

Greening for his FA Cup debut on the right. Wes Brown and Philip Neville are in contention for the right-back spot as Ronny Johnsen partners Jaap Stam

at the centre of the defence. Middlesbrough will give late fitness tests to Paul Gascoigne (knee), Gary Pallister Keane, Nicky Butt and Ryan (heel) and Robbie Mustoe Giggs. Ferguson could also (hamstring). Italian defender call up teenager Jonathan Gianluca Festa is suspended

Port Vale v Liverpool (Sun)

Semi-final: 1954 Cup best W: 1965, 74, 86, 89, 92 Apps: 4 Wins: 2 3rd rad form (last 5 years) Apps: 5 Wins: 3

captain Paul Ince available after a one-match ban. But his England colleague Steve McManaman is out again, this time with an ankle injury sustained in his comeback match on Monday when he lasted just 25 minutes in the 4-2 win over Newcastle.

Robbie Fruder, who missed

LIVERPOOL WILL have their squad. He may find himself on the bench, though, since the Michael Owen and Kariheinz Riedle partnership grabbed two goals apiece against the Magpies.

Neil Brisco, 20, who is wearing a cast on a hand injury. looks set to start because of a flu bug which has swept through the Port Vale midfield. that game with a leg injury, is On-loan pair Tony Rougier expected to be back in the and Des Lyttle are ineligible.

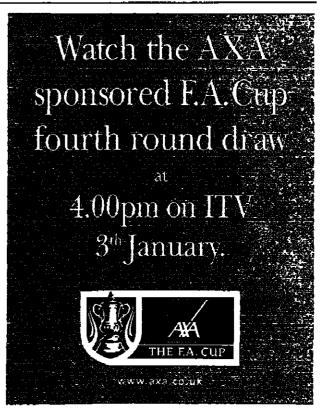
Preston v Arsenal (Mon)

W: 1889, 1938 Cup best Wt 1930, 36, 50, 71, 79, 93, 98 Apps: 2 Wins: 1 3rd rnd form (last 5 years) Apps: 5 Wins: 3 THE PRESTON manager,

David Moyes, has a doubtful starter in defender Gary Parkinson who has a flu virus. The Arsenal striker Dennis Bergkamp, who limped out of the Gunners' game with Charlton with an ankle injury, has an outside chance of playing. Nicolas Anelka is kept out

on Boxing Day against West Ham. Fabian Caballero or Christopher Wreh are on standby to replace Bergkamp with Marc Overmars ready to switch to a central role. Arsenal have Tony Adams, David Seaman, Stephen Hughes, Fredrik Ljungberg and Nigel Winterburn injured and Gilles Grimandi is suspended.

by an ankle injury sustained TODAY'S GUIDE ON PAGES 26 & 27



FA Cup: No longer is Graham Taylor the stuff of derisory headlines but the manager of a newly ascendant Watford No vegetables for the Vicarage man ock

By GLENN MOORE

If WILL happen even before he reaches the dressing-room. As Graham Taylor gets off the Watford bus at White Hart Lane this lunchtime, a loutish voice in the crowd will bellow: "You turnip, Taylor."

Like the "Gotcha" headline and the page three pin-up, "Taylor the Turnip" is one of the indelible landmarks in the dumbing down of English journalism. Quintessentially tabloid, it was brilliant but brutal, catching the mood of the masses at the expense of the individual. England's results precipitated the shredding of Graham Taylor's reputation, and that television documentary finished it off, but it is the turnip image by which he is remembered.

Even now, five years after resigning as England manager,

'People have feelings. The turnip thing was diabolical. His track record with England was not bad'

Taylor does not go to Wembley internationals. There is always the possibility of meeting, as he puts it, "the tattooed man with a pint in his hand".

There is one place, however, Taylor will always be welcome and it is at Vicarage Road that he has rebuilt his career after the trials of England and Wolves. Elton John, now Sir Elton, coaxed him back to the club as general manager in February 1996 and he took up the firstteam reins again in the summer of 1997. His first season reaped the Second Division title, his second sees them fifth in the First Division with an FA Cup thirdround tie at Tottenham today. If it were not for his frightening brush with death last mouth, when a throat abscess required an emergency operation, his rehabilitation would seem to be on

"My good fortune after Wolves was to take a break from team management," said Taylor when we met up on a murky day



Graham Taylor in contemplative mood before today's FA Cup tie at White Hart Lane where the former England manager moves back into the spotlight

MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE TO TODAY'S FA CUP THIRD-ROUND MATCHES

general manager, it took me off the training pitch and taught me that's where I should be. I didn't want to be chief executive or general manager, I wanted to be what I think I'm not bad at, and that's a football manager. I wanted the ups and downs, the shouting, the good and bad times with the press. I wanted that to be part of my life."

It is a rousing declaration and you begin to believe Taylor when he insists his enthusiasm survived both England and Wolves. In the next room, Sir Elton puts you right. "I think his appetite died for a while," the chairman said. "It was taken away from

in Watford. "I came back as him after the England job. That mistakes. I have.' would happen to anyone. It was soul destroying, what happened.

"He was very loath to come back into football. I said: You can't let people dictate to you. Come back here, see what you think, in this environment you are loved and revered'. "People are human, they

have feelings, the turnip thing was diabolical. His track record as England manager was not that bad, it is only because we failed to qualify for the World Cup that it's seen as a disaster." And because of the documentary. "Yes, he shouldn't have

done it, that was the nail in the

coffin for him. But we all make

whole career was ruined by that referee. It was a joke." Today Taylor is far removed

Remembering the pro-

gramme's famous scene in Rot-

terdam, where Taylor finally

disintegrates after Herr Assen-

macher fails to send off Ronald

Koeman for bringing down

David Platt, Sir Elton adds:

"We'd all have been like that. His

from the haunted England manager who confessed he woke up with his pyjamas soaked in sweat. Even his recent illness appears not to have scarred him, apart from a husky voice. He is strain his throat, torture for been to Vicarage Road all the

will be fit to lead the line at

Dean Court after returning to

training following an evening

out with friends that went awry

when he slipped on ice and suf-

fered a facial injury. Denis

tween promotion rivals, "but if

Grimsby's manager Alan

we play well we can win it."

Tony Gallimore - both are suf-

fering from hamstring injuries

- while strikers Lee Nogan

someone who likes talking as much as Taylor, And, after 26 old Fourth Division to the international stage, he has plen-

"It is ironic that the Premiership is where we wish to be but it is causing problems for the rest of football," he said. "When go into schools I ask how many kids support Watford. I get three or four hands go up. Then I ask: 'Who supports United?' Eight or nine go up. Arsenal prompts 15 to 16. Then I ask how many have been to Highbury or Old Trafford and I don't see a under doctor's orders not to hand. If I ask how many have

hands go up. There is a generation of kids growing up whose football revolves around the Premiership - they won't have that commitment to their local team and that is sad."

Then there is the changed atmosphere within the game. "It was always competitive but it and ate out of the same bowl. Now 20 clubs eat out of a trough and the rest get the little bits and pieces. Money is at the root of Last year we won the Second Division and lost £750,000. This year we've barely been out of the top six and we will be fortimate if we don't lose £1m."

There was more, equally

heartfelt and sensible. Taylor bemoaned the money going to agents, the dependence on television income, the way young players are not working on the basic skills of their game the way they used to.

But, he adds, players still come into the game with enthusiasm and, if he can keep them from outside temptations that can be harnessed to the same good effect as 20 years ago, when he led Watford from the Fourth Division to Europe and the FA Cup final.

"I still believe you can stay up [in the Premiership] on organisation, coaching ability and having players who are

prepared to work at the basics. In the dressing-room before a game the money aspect never enters it."

Taylor is a complex man. Hurt by the spotlight, but ever seeking it. Thin-skinned, it is said, but not one to harbour a grudge. He never conquered that "show us your caps" mentality with England and shows. signs of suffering it himself - ha works into conversation the letter he received from Alan Shearer when he left the England job. the help he has been giving David Platt in his coaching education and his discovery at Aston Villa of Platt and Dwight Yorke.

Without doubt a decent and honourable man, he is clearly held in the highest esteem by Sir Elton. Many years ago Taylor invited the rock star to dinner then presented him with a bottle of whisky and the words: "Isn't that

'I wanted the ups and downs, the shouting, the good and bad times with the press. I wanted that back'

what you normally have?" Alluding to that period, Sir Elton said: "Graham is probably one of the greatest friends I have in my life. He did some very plain speaking to me and I took it on board. Having someone you respect so much saying what he thought of you upset me because I knew he was right."

Sir Elton will not be at White Hart Lane today - he is in California working on a film soundtrack - but Taylor, after a break imposed by his doctor, will be present. The match has a spe-cial resonance, as his last spe. 12 at the club ended with a win over Spurs in the League a month after going down to them in the 1987 FA Cup semi-final That was the occasion Gary Plumley was summoned from his Newport wine bar to answer a goalkeeping crisis. Thus handicapped. Watford lost 4-1. Today Taylor's promising young side hope to compete on equal terms and further the rehabilitation of a football man.

Aston Villa v Hull City

Semi-final: 1930 6th rnd: 1957 Apps: 0 Wins: 0 Apps: 2 Wins: 0

ASTON VILLA manager John Gregory is looking to improve on the club's dismal record in the FA Cup but insists that any success will not distract from the main priority of Premiership title glory. Villa look to have a straightforward task on their hands when they entertain the Third Division's basement club Hull City in today's match. "Last season the club's suc-

cess in the FA Cup and UEFA Cup kept things going." Gregory said. "Hull might be struggling at present but we will treat them with the utmost respect. We don't want to be one of those sides making the headlines for the wrong reasons in the Sunday newspapers."

Villa will be without the injured lan Taylor but fellow midfielder Alan Thompson will return after suspension, while



John Gregory: Priorities striker Stan Collymore has re-

covered from an ankle injury. Hull hope that goalkeeper Steve Wilson will be fit after a bout of flu, while the former Rangers midfielder Brian

at the heart of the defence. Kidd

McGinty has recovered from an Achilles problem.

Blackburn R v Chariton

W: 1884, 85, 86, 90, 91, 1928 Cup best 3rd red form (last 5 years)

BLACKBURN MANAGER Brian England star Marlon Broomes Kidd is sweating on the fitness of five players for today's all-Premiership FA Cup thirdround match at home to Charlton, Virus victim Nathan Blake is very doubtful while captain Tim Sherwood, fellow midfielder Billy McKinlay and fullbacks Callum Davidson and Jeff Kenna face late tests. Swiss defender Stéphane Henchoz. who missed his first game this season at Leicester on Monday, is hopeful of recovering from an

is already without Chris Sutton. Christian Dailly, Tim Flowers, Garry Flitcroft and Sebastien Perez, while Darren Peacock is suspended and new striker Ashley Ward is not eligible.

Chariton will again be without leading scorer Clive Mendonca, who is out of action with a groin injury. Andy Hunt should return after a bout of flu, while Paul Mortimer and Matt Holmes have trained this week. Achilles strain to partner young Keith Jones remains doubtful.

Wolves, laying low forward

gling with the virus and are

record goalscorer Steve Bull

and central defender Adrian

Bolton v Wolves

W: 1923, 26, 29, 58 Cup best W: 1893, 1908, 49, 60 3rd rnd form (last 5 years)

BOLTON MANAGER Colin Todd the country has also struck at W: 1900. 03 faces a minor injury crisis for the visit of Wolves to the Robbie Keane, left-back Lee Reebok Stadium in the all- Naylor and midfielder Darren Division One FA Cup tie. Andy Ferguson. All three are strug-Todd is suffering from a hernia while Greg Strong has injured doubtful to face Bolton. Of the his leg, and both players look injury doubts, midfielder Simon likely to be missing from the Osborn has a hamstring probhome side. Todd does have lem, striker David Connolly other options, however, and has tendinitis, and utility playcould recall captain Gudni er Steve Sedgley has an ankle Bergsson after a two month abinjury. Definitely missing are sence or switch Mike Whitlow

The flu epidemic sweeping Williams.

THE FA Cup pedigrees of these a Cherries side who have won THE FORMER Cardiff City their last six games. West Bromwich Albion's £5m-rated striker, Lee Hughes,

Bournemouth v WBA

3rd rnd form (last 5 years)

two teams could hardly be more contrasting. While Albion have played in 10 FA Cup finals (they last lifted the trophy in 1968). Bournemouth's best run came 42 years ago, when they lost to Manchester United in the sixth round. Today Bournemouth will be

without their captain, Ian Cox, Smith, the Albion manager, inwho is serving a one-match ban. sists his 26-goal striker is not Roger Boli is likely to come into facing any disciplinary action.

W: 1889, 1938

Bradford C v Grimsby Semi-final: 1936, 39

PAUL JEWELL, the home man-bench. "It will be a tough ager, is confident his team can game," Jewell said of the tie beovercome Grimsby at Valley Parade. He looks set to keep faith with the starting line-up which defeated Tranmere on Mon-day and consolidated The Ban-tests to Stacy Coldicott and tams in fourth place in the First Division. The goalkeeper Mark Prudhoe, and midfielders Paul Bolland and Craig Ram- and Daryl Clare miss out with age are all added to the squad flu and Lee Ashcroft is absent

but look likely to start on the with a groin injury.

Bristol C v Everton

Cop best W: 1906, 33, 66, 84, 95 3rd red form (last 5 years) BRISTOL CITY chairman Scott will be late fitness tests to full-

upset against Everton today. beaten Liverpool and taken match for Everton for six Everton close," he said, "but I don't think we expect to win."

Christian Edwards, and there short lay-off with a knee injury.

Davidson is playing down his back Jim Brennan and mid-

side's chances of creating an fielder Tommy Doherty. Scotland midfielder John "We've done it in the past; we've Collins could play his last weeks as he is due to have an operation next week. Marco Bristol City will be without Materazzi is out with a shoul-Rob Edwards, Brian Tinnion. der injury, while Ibrahima Colin Cramb, Shaun Taylor, Bakayoko is doubtful. Howev-Aaron Brown and loan signing er, Dave Watson is fit after a

Bury v Stockport

5th rnd: 1935, 50 Apps: 2 Wins: 0 3rd and form (last 5 years)

played each other in the Cup for being out of first-team action for rather be handed an easy ride 106 years. On that occasion 16 months with severe grain and they met in a qualifying round pelvic injuries. and Bury made full use of home

advantage by winning 8-1. Bury will no doubt face a much stiffer task today, particularly as half of their team have been suffering from flu. However, they have welcomed back who completed two full games is on loan from Chelsea.

Apps: 4 Wins: 3 THESE TWO clubs have not in three days last weekend after

While Bury can claim the better Cup record historically. Stockport have established a giant-killing reputation in recent seasons. Today County will have striker Brett Angell back, but midfielder Paul Dean West, their wing-back. Hughes is ruled out because he

Cardiff v Yeovil

Cup best W: 1888, 92, 1931, 54, 68 W: 1927

Apps: 4 Wins: 1 Apps: 2 Wins: 2 striker Carl Dale will lead the Yeovil attack against his old

club at Ninian Park today. The Conference club are without key defenders Murray Fishlock and Al-James Hannigan, who are both suspended. Hannigan lost his appeal against the booking he picked up against Telford. Veteran Tony Pounder or midfielder Jamie Pitman will deputise for Fishlock at left back. Dale plays against his old club in the absence of the cuptied Darren Keeling while last season's top scorer, Owen Pickard, is still injured. Ex-Bristol Rovers midfielder Matt Hayfield is pushing for a recall

after recovering from injury. Cardiff's Jeff Eckhardt is expected to start a match for the first time in two months,

stumbling 1-0 at second-placed while manager Frank Burrows Brentford in the League. Coventry v Macclesfield

W: 1987 3rd md: 1968, 88 Apps: 5 Wins: 4 Apps: 0 Wins: 0 VETERAN GOALKEEPER Steve

Ogrizovic, who has played in every one of Coventry's FA the season, is also pressing Cup embarrassments since they won the trophy in 1987, is back between the posts against Second Division Macclestield today. Ogrizovic played in the infamous 2-1 defeat by non-League Sutton United 10 years ago and gets the nod over Swede Magnus Hedman. Up front, recent signing John Aloisi

Crewe v Oxford Utd Semi-final: 1888 4th rnd; 1964, 82

has said that he is not after a possible team." dream draw with a big club in the next round, but would and an extended run in the FA Cup. The First Division's bottom side are set to be without Steve Macauley, David Walton and striker Steve Anthrobus for the visit of their fellow strugglers to Gresty Road.

"We're in with a good chance because Oxford are of a similar standard to us," Gradi said. "If we get through I just want nais this century."

Gioacchini, on loan from Serie A side Verezia until the end of

Carl Dale: Cardiff return

could receive a welcome boost

from the midfielder Danny Hill

who is also likely to return to

the side. Cardiff, leading the

Third Division, will want to get

back to winning ways after

for a place at Highfield Road. Macclesfield have been hit by a severe bout of flu with midfielder Martin McDonald and Rae Ingram certainly out while Neil Sorvel has a heavy throat infection and is doubtful. Defender Darren Tinson may be forced to play even though he is still not recovered from a waits to see if he gets picked in knee ligament problem while front of Darren Huckerby, al- winger Stuart Whittaker is hopthough new striker Stefano ing to shake off a back problem.

CREWE MANAGER Dario Gradi a home tie against the easiest Oxford are expected to keep faith with the side that held Portsmouth to a 2-2 draw on Monday, with winger Joey

Beauchamp - sent off against

The two teams have never met in the FA Cup or League Cup. Oxford have visited Gresty Road five times in the League but have won there only once. Neither club have progressed beyond the FA Cup quarter-fi-

Pompey - still available.

Leicester v Birmingham

5th rnd: 1949 Final: 1949, 61, 63, 69

LEICESTER ARE without Welsh international Robbie Savage for today's tie against Birmingham City. The flamboyant midfielder damaged knee ligaments against Blackburn Rovers on Monday and is facing a lengthy absence. Manager Martin O'Neill also has a worry over Andy Impey, who has a calf injury and is doubtful for the Filbert Street

The Birmingham managar Trevor Francis, a former tear mate of O'Neill's in the Nottingham Forest side that won. the European Cup, is expected to retain the side that started in Monday's win at Bury

The midfield player Chris Marsden and left-back Simon Charlton, who have both been out of action since November with knee and groin problems. are still undergoing treatment.

Lincoln City v Sunderland

5th md: 1887, 90, 1902 Cup best Apps: 1 Wins: 0 3rd and form (last 5 years)

today's match with Sunderland offers his club some muchneeded relief. The struggling Imps can forget about their League problems for the afternoon. Reames, who hopes captain Terry Fleming and cover from illness, said: "We're Johnston (knee) and Nicky obviously the underdogs, and Summerbee (ankle) are both

JOHN REAMES, Lincoln's chair- have been intense for us this alman and manager, believes lows us to relax a little bit." Sunderland striker Kevin Phillips, having been out of action for three months after damaging his toe in the Wor: thington Cup match with Chester, may feature among the substitutes for the First Divigoalkeeper John Vaughan resion leaders. Wingers Allan

Newcastle v Crystal Palace

CRYSTAL PALACE aim to emu-

whereas recent League games still out of action.

season, when a 2-1 win at Newcastle was one of their last in the Premiership. Injuries to strikers have stretched the First Division club's resources Jansen and Lee Bradbury are

Newcastle hope to bounce late their achievement of last back from Christmas defeats at home to Leeds and away to Liverpool. However, the Premier: ship side have doubts over Duncan Ferguson, who suffered a groin injury in the 4-2 in recent weeks, but Matt reverse at Anfield, Rob Lee and Warren Barton, Didier Domi. available again today. Attilio the £4m signing from Paris St. Lombardo has an outside Germain, will not be involved chance of playing, but defend- because his registration was er Sagi Burton is suspended. not processed in time.

Nottingham F v Portsmouth

W: 1898, 1959 TROUBLED NOTTINGHAM For- captain Steve Chettle and Chris

team for this tie at the City Ground, Bassett, whose side has now gone a record 17 league games without a win, will hope for a change of fortune in the cup but will be without striker Pierre van Hooijdonk, who completes a three-match

est manager Dave Bassett is Bart-Williams, who are nursing poised to name an unchanged back and calf injuries, are ex-

pected to declare themselves fit to The Republic of Ireland in ternational Alan McLoughlin is expected to recover a groin injury and record-breaking goalkeeper Alan Knight is in line for a recall by Portsmouth, Andy Thomson, Thomas Thorgersen ban, and injured central de- and David Hillier are all battling fender Jesper Mattsson. But to recover from viruses.

bet. Inc. The 1950 per The state of the s

of Platt and

1931-32, 1948-49 and 1983-84. Today Rangers have two major injury problems. Rob Steiner has an ankle injury, while Mike Sheron is strug- Ian Lawson and Delroy Facey gling with a hamstring strain. and midfielder Simon Baldry.

Beech cup-tied. His fellow midfielder, Lee Richardson, has an ankle injury, while defender Jon Dyson has an Achilles problem. Flu has sidelined strikers

Aspin a rock in a sea of change

Port Vale's veteran defender hopes experience will pay against Michael Owen tomorrow. By Phil Shaw

prodigies will be in direct opposition when Liverpool visit Port Vale tomorrow. One is a serial scorer just past his 19th birthday with a transfer value in excess of £25m. The other is under orders to stay in his own half and faces a possible free transfer next spring, by which time he will also be 34.

Michael Owen made his Premiership debut at half that age, though he was an old codger compared with the tough-as-teak defender who aims to deny the England striker his first FA Cup goal in the third-round tie.

Neil Aspin, Vale's club captain, was a mop-topped 16-yearold when he fulfilled his dual ambition of playing for Leeds United in the former First Division. Some 650 games later, in a richly deserved testimonial season, it remains his only appearance at the highest level.

"I was due to play for the juniors at Doncaster but got bulled off the bus and told to go home and put my feet up." Aspin recalled. "When I came back to Elland Road I still didn't know what was going on, though the first team had injuries and suspensions. Allan Clarke, the manager, came and sat by me during the prematch meal and said: 'You're playing against Ipswich today'. I nearly choked on my baked

A week later Aspin watched ther two years on, with

TWO TEENAGED in awe from the bench as the Liverpool of Dalglish, Hansen, Souness, Rush and Lawrenson closed in on another championship by outclassing the relegation-bound Yorkshire side. "They were as good as any team I've seen," he said.

> High praise from one whose earliest heroes were Don Revie's Leeds. Aspin, who attended the same Gateshead school as Paul Gascoigne, was taken by his father to watch them at Newcastle. Norman Hunter made a "lasting impression" on him, if not in the way he did on many forwards, and he resolved to follow in the legendary leg-biter's foot-

> In 1985 his name was inscribed alongside the greats of the Revie era on Leeds' Player of the Year trophy. Two years later, he came within tantalising reach of more widely celebrated silverware: the FA Cup

Leeds, then in the old Second Division, qualified for a semi-final against Coventry at Hillsborough. Aspin had arranged his wedding for the same Sunday, never imagining such a fixture clash. "I drove over to Harrogate, where Diane was modelling in a fashion fair. to tell her we'd have to cancel. She'd aiready heard. Fortunately she forgave me."

Coventry came from behind to win 3-2 in extra time, just as they would at Wembley. A fur-



Howard Wilkinson reshaping Leeds, Aspin reluctantly elected to move on rather than return to reserve football. He spoke to Charlton, a division higher, but did not fancy living in the South. Enter John Rudge, the already long-serving Vale manager

"He kept pestering Leeds for

head where it burts have helped establish the Burslem club in the second grade. Now he hopes Leeds will provide the opposition for his testimonial match, and that Gazza and Robbie Williams (the popsinging Vale-ite who cites Aspin as his favourite player) will

me," Aspin said. "It got to the play for him. 'Loyalty doesn't count for much now. You're

better off financially if you move around'

stage where Mr Wilkinson said: 'Go and see him just to get him off my back'. We met at a hotel near the M1 and by the evening I'd agreed to join Vale.

"But the day I set out to sign, I couldn't find the club. I was looking for signs to somewhere called Port Vale and there weren't any. It took me an hour and a half to get to Stoke-on-Trent and the same again to find the ground." His uncompromising tack-

"Testimonials will soon be a thing of the past because of the Bosman ruling," Aspin said. "Loyalty doesn't seem to count for much - you're better off financially if you move around. It's also a sad fact that you're not necessarily better thought

of if you stay a long time at a

ling and willingness to stick his

This season, with Vale again near the foot of the First Division. Aspin's honesty and commitment have led Rudge to look to him for leadership. The respect is mutual "Most managers make buys who lose their club money. Mr Rudge's signings either give great value or he re-sells them at a good profit. His eye for a player is excellent but he'll tell you it's getting harder: clubs don't want to sell someone cheap to him, then see him get £2m for them within a year.

"He treats the club's money as carefully as if it were his own. That's because he's got great feeling for Port Vale. He could have gone to Bradford, Preston and even Stoke at various times but he has stayed loyal."

Aspin's contract expires at the end of the season and he fears the club may wait until they know which division they will be in before deciding whether to offer an extension. Perhaps a heroic FA Cup performance, like the one which broke Everton's grip on the prize four seasons ago or the two draws with Arsenal last January, would convince any waverers in Vale's boardroom.

"We drew at Liverpool in the League Cup a few seasons back but Steve McManaman destroyed us in the replay. As soon as I heard the draw I thought about facing Michael Owen. It's only six months since I was leaping up off a mate's sofa after his goal against Argentina in the World Cup, so the prospect of facing him is both frightening and ex-

Owen, whose father Terry was a Vale player at the time of his birth, will find this latter-day Hunter an unvielding adversary. The boy wonder need not worry, however, about tracking back should Vale gain a corner, Rudge has instructed his rock not to roll into enemy territory.

For Aspin to score the single goal he needs for double figures in his career may therefore require something unusual. "I'm still ahead of David Batty," he said with a self-mocking smile. Stiffing the natural finishers in Liverpool's ranks, or even Owen, would more than com-

Paul Futcher: Veteran

a suspension but is set to miss

out with a back injury. Matty

Lockwood has shaken off a

knock and should feature while

striker Carl Griffiths also re-

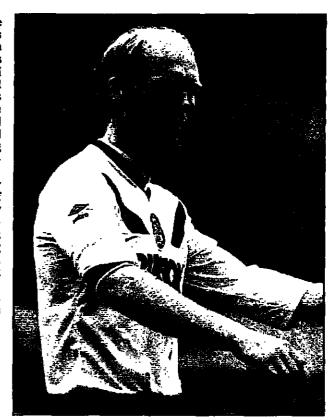
turns. But fellow forward Steve

County Ground as he has flu.

casion: 4-0 in a qualifying round

in 1902-03; 1-0 in a semi-final

History would appear to



MATCH-BY-MATCH GUIDE TO TODAY'S FA CUP THIRD-ROUND MATCHES

Oldham v Cheisea

Semi-final: 1913, 90, 94 Cup best Annos: 5 Wins: 3 3rd rnd form (last 5 years)

W: 1970, 97

(SELSEA WELCOME back captain Dennis Wise from suspension for today's game at Oldham. Wise has missed the last three games following his sending-off against Everton but is available for selection in Gianluca Vialli's squad for the trip to Boundary Park. Chelsea will be without the suspended Dan Petrescu, Bernard Lambourde, who is suffering with a groin injury and long-term injury victim Gustavo Povet. The Uruguayan international will see a specialist on Monday Dennis Wise: Available

about his ankle injury. John McGinlay, meanwhile, inhospitable climate could aid the Latics in a potential giantside won't know where Oldham

when the wind is howling and believes Oldham's notoriously it's freezing cold." Oldham manager Andy

Ritchie will be without Icekilling act. "Half of Chelsea's landic international Toddy Orlygsson with a knee injury. Paul is," McGinlay said. "It's not Reid and Richard Graham look the most welcoming of places set to return for the Latics.

Plymouth v Derby

W: 1946 Apps: 5 Wins: 2 Semi-final: 1984 Cup best

THE Derby County manager Barnsley and could find himself Jim Smith's plans for today's thrust straight back into the FA Cup tie at Plymouth are in team. The 20-year-old defender members of their first-team time. squad Defender Rory Delap has a torn knee ligament, while Stefan Schnoor, Tony Dorigo, Igor Stimac and Francesco Baiano are also out. Paulo Wanchope and Darryl Powell are both serving a one-match ban Mick Heathcote (back) also and striker Malcoim Christie is cup-tied, but Deon Burton is Paul Gibbs is still out with a back after a month's loan with knee problem.

tatters with the Rams travelling Danny Porter has been added to Home Park without eight to the senior squad for the first

Argyle should welcome back midfielder Ronnie Maugé from suspension for the tie as long as he overcomes a back injury. Striker Sean McCarthy (knee) and central defender hope to be fit, but full-back

OPR v Huddersfield

W: 1922 Final: 1982 Apps: 5 Wins: 3

QUEEN'S PARK RANGERS have Gavin Peacock could step into won only one of their four FA the midfield, while Steve Slade Cup encounters with today's and Chris Kiwomya are also on opponents. The London side tri- stand-by. Goalkeeper Ludek umphed 2-1 in Yorkshire in a Miklosko steps straight into hird-round replay two seasons the side after completing his go after drawing 1-1 at the first £50,000 move from West Ham. attempt. Huddersfield woo the three previous encounters, in

Huddersfield have Chris

Rotherham v Bristol R

5th md; 1953, 68 BRISTOL ROVERS player-man-called, but captain Andy Tillson PAUL FUTCHER, the 42-yearager Ian Holloway will decide and Marcus Andreasson are old Southport player-managthis morning whether to play

with a broken nose. If he rules Rotherham are without striker Rob Scott, who is facing himself out ex-Chelsea defender David Lee could move fora long lay-off after dislocating a shoulder and Paul Raven. ward to play alongside Jamie Shore, who has completed his who is ineligible. Paul Dillon or comeback from a serious knee Neil Richardson could return. injury. Fit-again Steve Foster will The two teams have never partner youngster Mike Trought met in the FA Cup, but Rovers in central defence if Lee switchhave won only twice in 24

es to midfield. Rob Trees is releague visits to Rotherham. Rushden & Diamonds v Leeds

1st md replay: 1996-97 Cup best

3rd red form (last 5 years) THE LEEDS manager, David

O'Leary, faces a selection headache in defence, with captain Lucas Radebe, Martin Hiden, Gary Kelly, Robert Molenaar and David Wetherall all doubtful for the trip to face Rushden & Diamonds at Nene Park today. "There wasn't much in it when Stevenage played Newcastle last season," O'Leary said, "and it'll be the same this time."

One man who will know the task Rushden face is their manager Brian Talbot. Talbot and O'Leary were room-mates the night before the pair won the 1979 FA Cup with Arsenal, 3-2 against Manchester United. Defender Ray Warburton and striker Darren Collins are unavailable through injury, while newcomers Miquel de Souza and American goalkeeper Ian Feuer are both eligible.

Sheffield Utd v Notts Co

Apps: 5 Wins: 2 3rd rad form (last 5 years) Apps: 4 Wins: 1

FORMER CHELSEA and Everton midfielder Graham Stuart is poised to return for Sheffield United for today's visit of Notts County. Paul Devlin, up against his former club, and Marcelo are almost certain to keep their places up front. Player-manager Steve Bruce could make changes in midfield with Michael Twiss, who came off

against Huddersfield on Mon-

day, pushing for a start. Midfielder Andy Hughes is likely to play for Notts County despite a head wound suffered in the game against Reading. Striker Kim Grant, on-loan from Millwall, is not eligible and will be replaced by either Justin Jackson or Tony Garcia. Striker Sean Farrell has not recovthe bench to score the winner ered from a torn calf muscle.

Southampton v Fulham

W: 1976 Apps: 5 Wins: 2

KEVIN KEEGAN, a former Carlton Palmer, Claus Lundek-Southampton player, returns to vam and Scott Hiley all face late The Deil as Fulham manager. fitness tests for minor injuries. With Fulham leading the Second Division and Southampton struggling in the Premiership, a shock could be on the cards.

Southampton will be without Matt Le Tissier, who has a calf strain, and Stuart Ripley, who has a virus, Mark Hughes is likely to replace him in midfield but Wayne Collins has recovfollowing a two-match ban. ered after an Achilles problem. zani - have all resumed training. the pair sidelined.

Final: 1975 Apps: 2 Wins: 0

David Howells, David Hirst and John Beresford all have long-term knee injuries while Francis Benali is not yet fit following a broken arm. Fulham's Steve Finnan and John Salako have been suffering from flu and may not play,

Southport v Leyton Orient Quarter-Final: 1978 5th rnd: 1968, 98

6th rnd: 1951, S8 Quarter-final: 1931

still out with long-term injuries. er, aims to show if you are good enough you're young enough as he tries to help his non-Leaguers into round four of the FA Cup. They face Division Three club Leyton Orient at Haig Avenue, having dumped Mansfield out of the competition in the last round and with hopes high of pulling off another giant-killing.

But, despite his club's fine showing in the Cup, the former Luton and Manchester City defender admitted: "Getting back into the Football League is our priority. Halifax have shown it can be done and look at Macclesfield, who are now in the Second Division. Who'd have thought that three or four years ago?"

Orient centre-back Stuart Watts is cup-tied, having al-Hicks is available after serving ready played for Fisher Athletic.

Swindon v Barnsley

Semi-final: 1910, 12

SWINDON TOWN'S hopes of overcome an abdominal probembarking on a good FA Cup lem and is almost certain to run could be hampered by an miss out, while youngster Mike injury to their leading scorer, Turner is cup-tied. The Iffy Onuora. He is doubtful defender Chris Morgan is also after sustaining an ankle injury sidelined for the trip to the in Monday's defeat at Bristol City. George Ndah stands by to replace him. Winger Ty offer Swindon little chance of Gooden could win a recall after success. The two sides have recovering from a hamstring met three times in the Cup and injury, but Scott Leitch serves Barnsley have won on each octhe final game of a threematch ban.

Bruce Dyer, the Barnsley replay in 1911-12; and 2-0 in a striker, is still struggling to first-round replay in 1922-23.

Tottenham v Watford W: 1901, 21. 61. 62. 67, 81. 82. 91 Cmp best Final: 1984

STEFFEN IVERSEN returns to a fractured jaw against Liverpool on 5 December. He resive duo. John Scales and Dean Yates has a knee injury Ramon Vega, but the long-term and striker Michel Ngongé has injured - Mauricio Taricco, a strained groin, fitness Moussa Saib and Paolo Tramez- problems which could well keep

3rd rad form (last 5 years) Apps: 5 Wins: 2 Graham Taylor, the Watford the Tottenham line-up today manager, has a near fullfor the first time since suffering strength squad to choose from for the trip to White Hart Lane. Defender Nigel Gibbs and midplaces Chris Armstrong, who is fielder Clint Easton have been suspended for the visit of First added to the team that drew 1-1 Division Watford There is still at Carrow Road against Norno return for the injured defen- wich on Tuesday. Centre-half

Tranmere v lpswich

Apps: 0 Wins: 0 Apps: 5 Wins: 2

prepare for only their second FA Cup meeting with Tranmere. The East Anglian team also won 2-1 at Prenton Park in the fourth round six years ago.

Bobby Petta, who missed lpbecause of gastric flu, is re-

IPSWICH TOWN will be hoping faces a late fitness test, while de-to repeat their 2-0 First Division fender Adam Tanner is back in victory in September as they the squad after a knee injury. Samassi Abou has returned to West Ham after his month on loan, so David Johnson and

on the latter occasion, winning Richard Naylor lead the attack. Clint Hill. Alan Mahon, Andy Thompson and David Kelly face late fitness tests for Tranmere.

swich's 1-0 defeat at Wolves Gary Jones, Dave Challinor and Scott Taylor all expect to be called. Kieron Dyer (thigh) in contention after bouts of flu.

West Ham v Swansea

W: 1964, 75, 1980 Semi-final: 1926, 64

West Ham's game with visitors Swansea City today. Manager Harry Redknapp's other injury Javier Margas, who is return-ing home for rehabilitation work, Paul Kitson (toe) and Marc Keller (hamstring), but

RIO FERDINAND has a back the defence having completed problem and is doubtful for a three-match suspension. Swansea manager John Hollins should have a near fullstrength side, Talented midconcerns are Chilean defender fielder Richie Appleby, who missed the recent win over Barnet because of an ankle injury, has declared himself fit. while Julian Alsop, Michael John Moncur and Eyal Howard and Stuart Roberts Berkovic have been passed fit. also look set to make an ap-Neil Ruddock returns to bolster pearance at Upton Park.

Wimbledon v Man City

Cup best 3rd rnd form (last 5 years) W: 1904, 34, 56, 69 Apps: 5 Wins: 5 Apps: 5 Wins: 5

GARETH AINSWORTH'S injury

City, in the top flight not so lay-off looks set to stretch well long ago but now languishing into the New Year. The Wimble- in Division Two, will relish the don winger had hoped to be back chance to relive old times in time for the home FA Cup tie against a Premiership team. with Manchester City today but Andy Morrison has recovered that has proved a forlorn hope from his bout of flu and could as his groin injury is not healing return at Selhurst Park. as expected. Carl Cort is set to Michael Brown is set to keep lose out to Carl Leaburn for a his place in midfield, and topstriker's place despite grabbing scorer Shaum Goater, who has an equaliser after replacing hit 11 goals this term, should Leaburn at Leeds on Tuesday. start in attack.

Wrexham v Scunthorpe

6th md: 1974, 78 Cop best Apps: 4 Wins: 2 3rd rad form (last 5 years)

5th rnd: 1958, 70

WREXHAM HAVE built a repu- Scunthorpe counterpart, Brian tation for cup success in recent Laws, is relishing the chance to years, but on League form this test his side against opposition season Scunthorpe must have from a higher division. a decent chance of upsetting the odds. While Wrexham languish near the foot of the Second Di-

play-off place in the Third.

Scunthorpe have only one doubt, with centre back Russ Wilcox facing a late fitness test vision, Scunthorpe occupy a on a foot injury. Scunthorpe's assistant manager, Mark Lillis, Brian Flynn, the Wrexham said: "Brian Flynn's teams almanager, is likely to see the ways play football, which suits game as a welcome relief from us, and we won't be looking at his League problems, while his their League position."

SUNDAY AND MONDAY GAMES PAGE 29



SP()KI

THE VERY BEST OF IRISH P19 • CUBA'S BASEBALL LOVE AFFAIR P18

FA Cup: Leeds should survive tough Nene Park test, but Everton look vulnerable at Bristol City



All things bright and beautiful: The sun rises on a new year over Rushden's luxurious Nene Park stadium where Brian Talbot's team hope to march on with the scalp of Leeds United Peter Jay

Diamond day for dreamers

WHEN EVEN a hardnosed old cynic like George Graham bemoans the devaluation of the FA Cup.

certain clubs treat it less seriously than Europe, you know it is time the world's first and finest knock-out competition reasserted its capacity to conjure romance in the least propitious circumstances.

This weekend marks the 10th anniversary of the last time a non-League club eliminated opponents from the top flight, when Coventry City were goosed at Gander Green Lane by a bricklayer's goal for Sutton United. Responsibility for building on the list of six such shocks rests today with a club who are laying the foundations for something the part-timers of the past would scarcely have

believed possible. Rushden & Diamonds. where £20m has been invested

in the six and a half years since the Doc Martens footwear empire merged two non-League nonentities, are no ordinary fronting Leeds United, which will be coached by David O'Leary's former Arsenal room-mate Brian Talbot, will be comprised entirely of full-time players. And whereas Sutton stood just above the relegation zone. Rushden would be six points clear at the top if they

won their games in hand. Leeds' Premiership position, fifth, is exactly that held by Coventry in 1989; a coincidence to inspire Northamptonshire's dreamers. The depletion of O'Leary's defence by injury and suspension ought to encourage them further. However, the excellence of the set-up at Nene Park may work against Rushden. The pristine pitch

cry from the days when wouldbe giantkillers turned off the heating in the visitors' dressingroom and gave them lukewarm

If the non-League game is to draw, it is more likely to be by the rougher diamonds. Southport, who will have the oldest combatant of the round in 42year-old player-manager Paul Futcher, could prove a last resort for Leyton Orient, who have succumbed to Conference opponents in the last two

Yeovil go to Cardiff, the Third Division frontrumers, with a former Ninian Park hero and South Wales electrician, Carl Dale, sparking their attack. The Somerset dub have a tradition to maintain: 50 years ago this month, under the playermanagership of Alec Stock, they put out mighty Sunderland, stirring the Sunday Peo- revival under Brian Kidd and hyperious facilities are a far ple scribe to gush: "Hang out

the flags! Ring the joybells! Let's go gay!"

Surprisingly, the biggest disparity is not the 90-team gap bethe 91 that separate Aston Villa, Hull, bottom of the Third. The visitors would doubtless settle for a handsome contribution to their coffers and for going back to the struggle for League survival without confidence being further damaged by a heavy defeat, although Villa's record Cup win, 13-0 against Wednesbury Old Athletic in 1886, looks

Only two Premiership clubs are certain to be missing from the fourth round. Middlesbrough return to Old Trafford, where they beat Manchester United 3-2 last month, hoping for lightning to strike twice but undermined by successive reverses. Blackburn pit their against Charlton, who can only

hope that League form really does have no bearing on Cup

Arsenal face a potentially tween Rushden and Leeds but fraught start to their defence of O'Neill and John Robertson the trophy at Preston on Monmore of Arsene Wenger's Premiership counterparts is likely to be contemplating the dubious consolation of being able to "concentrate on the League". Walter Smith and injury-torn Everton, away to a reviving Bristol City, look particularly vulnerable.

Nor will Derby, even more disrupted by injuries and suspensions, relish their long haul to Plymouth, while Southampton receive Fulham knowing the Second Division leaders have already beaten them at The Dell this season in the Worthington Cup. Nottingham Forest, mired in the longest run in their history without a League win, also face a hiding-to-nothing tie, at home to Portsmouth.

GEORGE GRAHAM has re-

vealed his blueprint for the fu-

ture of English football - and

called for the introduction of a

winter break. The Tottenham

manager admitted he had

thought hard about the state of

the game, and concluded it

Graham's ideas include: a

mid-season break, having off

the month of January; starting

the season two weeks earlier

and finishing two weeks later.

no reduction in the size of the

Premiership; no transfers dur-

ing the season except during

the month's break and a ruling

that managers could not be

sacked during the season.

was time for change.

brought the European Cup to Forest will be managerial foes at Leicester, where Martin are for once unable to approunderdogs against a Birming-

ham side under Trevor Francis' and Ian Bowyer. Former Manchester United team-mates will be on opposite benches at Coventry, where Gordon Strachan comes up against Macclesfield's Sammy McIlroy and Peter Davenport

Nowhere does a winter's day chill the bones like Boundary Park, a wind-trap of a ground which could help Oldham's journeymen test the theory that Cheisea's glovewearing foreigners may not like it up 'em, as Corporal Jones used to say. John Hollins' Swansea, unbeaten in the Third Division since October, would have fancied their chances against West Ham at

Four of the players who the Vetch Field but may have to make do with dignified defeat and a lucrative pay-day at

John Rudge's reign at Port Vale has seen Tottenham. Everton, Derby and Southampton all blown out of the competition there. The Potteries stragglers - four points from the last 33 in the First Division and blighted by 'flu - will welcome any assistance from the elements against Liverpool, especially as Neil Brisco, 20, may have to make his debut with a plaster cast on a frac-

tured hand. But the Vale manager spoke for all those striving to emulate Sutton's feat, saying: "The Cup has a habit of throwing up unlikely heroes, so we're just hoping someone will rise to the occasion and make a name for

Graham wants radical change

Bates' loans claims rejected

BY MATT BARLOW

THE FOOTBALL Association has denied any wrongdoing in the wake of a loans controversy sparked by Ken Bates.

The Chelsea chairman, who wants to become the FA's new chairman, said he was lifting the lid on corruption within the game's governing body. He claimed senior staff had been given interest free loans for anything from home improvements to holidays.

But the FA's acting chief executive, David Davies, insisted any loans made had been issued through the proper channels - and he added the arrangement was not unusual within large companies.

"The FA have never issued interest free loans to staff," insisted Davies. "Any loans there have been have always been authorised. No new loans have been issued in the last year. Similar loans to staff are made by many organisations."

Bates said leading mem bers of the FA staff had made arrangements for personal loans without the approval of the council. "I have been told that the staff committee have been awarding these loans to themselves without security and without approval from the appropriate finance committee," he claimed. "There are loans for 10 to 20 years for anything from holidays to home improvements."

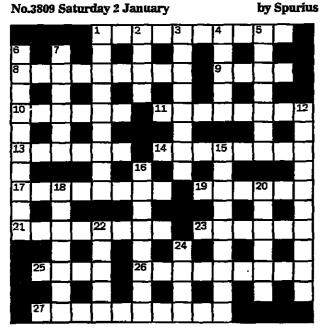
The Bates allegations come just weeks after the chief executive Graham Kelly resigned over his role in a £3.2m loan to the Welsh FA. A vote of no confidence was also passed by the FA's council in its chairman, Vale Park can be almost as Keith Wiseman. He has so far unforgiving as Oldham when a refused to step down but will when it is thought likely that his

reign will also come to an end. A clear-the-air meeting between Premiership referees and leading managers is to be brokered by the FA in the next couple of weeks after a number of recent disputes between them.

Gareth Barry has agreed a, new five-year contract at Aston Villa and will put pen to paper on the deal - reported to be worth up to £10,000 a week-on his 18th birthday in February.

Barry, who was a target for Arsenal and Chelsea before joining Villa, said: "The figures in the contract are not as high as people have been speculating about, but I am really pleased that everything regarding the deal has been finalised."

THE SATURDAY CROSSWORD



Friday's solution

Last Saturday's solution ALMONDIETES DO LE TOTS SUR CONTRACT PUTOFF TOTAL ETUT LONGSHIP

As those occupying space are told: "Don't linger so long"? (10) Took steps to provide entertainment in sound and vision (3-6) Old priest wearing American terminology originally in dictionary is removed (6) What's found in streets

of Eldorado, or Dutch thoroughfare? (4,4) 13 History or divinity gradu-ate following appropriate vocation (6) Accommodation of more than one layer? (8) 17 A question class ultimately omitted, problem-atic bit of algebra? (8) 19 Smooth characters in

Yorkshire Water divided about prohibition (6) Heartless conscience easy to get into a com-fortable state (8) Repetitious utterance from worker in Moral Re-armament (6)

25 Mineral used in metal core (4) 26 Old shooter and novice having intelligence to get amongst herd (9) 27 Shell offshore exploration worker (5-5)

DOWN

Type of vessel which did away with the pilot? (9) Tiptoe in church? (4) Extremely huffy medic and old General having

a gas (8) University College will be among te top, it's clear (5)
"Last of the Samurai" kept us up - no time to

waste (7)
Jogging along the prom, sea air's what you'll get (10) Sergeant-major springs about in convulsions (6) about in convulsions (6)

12 Those representing us in Europe take refuge in Eurodisney etc (5,5)

15 Heaven seen as endlessly ethereal, frequently? (9)

16 Crammed or coffered, maybe? (5-3)

18 Snobbish way to mature after cetting to universi-

after getting to university (7)
20 Novelist about to give Ruth a ring? (6)

22 Happen to pop into our cricket club (5) 24 Capital that is invested in bank ultimately linked to Vatican City (4)

The first five correct solutions to this week's puzzle opened next Thursday receive hardbacked copies of the Oxford Dictionary of Quotations. Answers and winners' names will be published next Saturday. Send solutions to Saturday Crossword, P. O. Box 4018, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5BL. Please use the box number and postcode and give your own postcode. Last week's winners will be announced next week.

heads on the yacht.

was last night assessing his chances of Team Group 4 continuing in the Around Alone after he hit a submerged object four miles off the coast of Cape Reinga on the northern tip of New Zealand's North Island And as Italy's Giovanni Solding crossed the finish line to win the 6,800-mile leg from Cape Town. third-placed Marc Thiecelin also reported hitting a semisubmerged container, which damaged his twin rudders and allowed Isabelle Autissier to overtake him.

The impact was enough to

By NEIL SILVER

Graham said: "I think it would be great to have a break mid-season. I would like to see us start the season two weeks earlier and finish two weeks later and I would like to have off the month of January. The first half of the season would finish on 31 December and the League Cup would be over by then. The second half of the season would start on 1 February and would comprise the FA Cup and the second half of the League. By starting two weeks earlier and finishing two weeks later, that is where you pick up your month for a break."

no need to reduce the size of the Premiership if his proposed schedule was introduced. He said: "I would have a shorter break in the summer because in the modern game that break is too long. We could span the games out longer. You could play the majority of games on Saturdays.

"With the pace and commitment of today's game I think it would be good for everybody to have that month off. The players can have two-and-a-half weeks off and then start training 10 days before the season re-starts. There would be no friendly matches, which means

Graham said there would be no lucrative games in say the Middle or Far East - the FA have the power to veto those.

"I don't think we need two months off in the summer. Instead we need to give the players a month off to recharge their batteries. The game already spans 10 months so let's use that time and spread it out so there is not such a great. pressure on the players. We are one of the few countries not to have a break at this time of year. I hope the football authorities take the opportunity to im-

prove the quality of the game." Meanwhile, Spurs have loaned Neale Fenn and Peter Gain to Lincoln City for a month

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FFE:

17.03 Apr

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Pict.

Minimal Comments

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Tarante Taran

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Golding's hopes are sunk

later Golding was given a tow

into the nearby Tom Bowling

his shore crew to fly in from

Auckland to assess the damage.

If the boat could be repaired

enough to make the final 140

miles down the coast to the fin-

ish then Golding could do full re-

A distraught Golding had

RACE LEADER Mike Golding

pairs and continue in the race. push the keel up through the But if the problem is too severe hull of Golding's Open 60-footthen his race would be over. er and he immediately put out a MayDay as he also rushed to time to report his plight to race one rudder still partially

director Mark Schrader and he told his girlfriend Andrea By STUART ALEXANDER Bacon, "My dreams are shattered." He had won the first leg close all the water-tight bulkfrom Charleston by just two and a half hours over Autissier, but A fishing boat in the area Soldini had been five days became to his assistance and hind and would have pulled

back only 24 hours of that. The race rules automatical-Bay. There he was waiting for ly disqualify anyone who accepts a tow of 10 miles or more. or who retires from a leg. But spokesman Dan Miller said that, because the tow had been only a short one, "at the mo-

ment he is still in the race". Thiercelin's crash damaged both rudders. He stopped and spent two hours making repairs. He then continued with



Golding: Dreams dashed

jammed but Autissier had overhauled him. She was also set to take the overall lead.

Team Group 4's Charles Rice said: "It is tragic that this should have happened so near to the finish of leg two, after coming through such the Southern Ocean. But it is a relief to know that Mike is uninjured."

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WEEKEND REVIEW

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ROY JENKINS ON THE BIRTH OF THE EURO ESSAY, PAGE 5

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OTBALL Association ed any wrongdoing of a loans controls ed by Ken Bale, helsea chairman become the PASSE n, said he was in on corruption with e's governing bon B senior staff had be erest free loans to a om home impro-> holidays. ie FA's acting thing David Davies, Insige is made had been ough the properdia and he added to ment was not unto urge companies FA have never 500 free loans to staff 5 avies "Art. Manda n have always hear L No new loans to sued in the 129 for loans to stati are make organisations. s said leading mar the FA star bed me ements for person ithout the approprie neil. "I have been the : staff committee la rarding these leggy ives with all secon Sout approvedings riate finance com: : claimed Trace ₽10 to 20 ; +1.75 fe 25 Man (length : : posse Bates alleanteason eks after the code Graham held nesse s**rol**e in a 🕮 Imb<u>er</u> Sh FA A victor of 200m. **1995** (1881) Passedin I क्रमंत्र या त्रं क्रिया **Visern**arii He na sor ten ster lout back encounce on Made **祖aiso** (475-1721年 enting an areas Temierano recess managers is word with FAR. DESER ceks with the fisputes have end ah Barr PARTY OF STREET AND ADDRESS. ed will purpose their deal - reporté ai ptorice) - and i birtim. g. who are a coml and the state Villa said = Paris of the Continue ie navel der de un i am nachte erything to a wife.



MAGNUS MILLS:
MEET OUR NEW
RADIO CRITIC

ARTS, PAGE 8



A FACIAL FOR LESS THAN HALF PRICE

SHOPPING, PAGE 12

FOR SALE

WHERE TO NOW? HOUSE PRICES IN 1999

PROPERTY, PAGE 13



Saturday afternoon fever

In New Labour's vision of 'Cool Britannia' and 'Rebranded Britain', morris dancers are as unfashionable as wing collars.

So what makes them do it? Is it a yearning for a lost rural Arcadia or just an excuse to visit every pub in the country?

n Keston Village Hall, just south of Bromley, Kent, the Ravensbourne Morris Men are about to set off for their annual Boxing Day dance. On one of the two tables in the room are soft drinks, all of which are entirely untouched. On the other is hot punch, around which several men are cheerfully jostling with many a cry of "Seems a pity to waste this last drop!". Others are strapping on their jangling garters, and mustering their accessories, including a cake impaled on a stick which, like most things pertaining to morris dancing, is "probably something to do with ancient fertility rites". The wooden horse's head – also probably something to do with ancient fertility rites – is not being used on this occasion.

Amid the kerfuffle, one of the men's wives warns me against the punch. "It's so strong," she says, "that last year it caught fire... They make their jelly with it as well," she adds. "Jelly?" "Yes," she says, and explains that the Ravensbourne Morris Men always make a "special" jelly for their yearly dinner, or Annual Ale as it is more correctly known. This year, the jelly is likely to be even more incendiary than usual, because it is a hundred years since the most momentous event in morris-dancing history.

Now, before going any further, a note of caution is required. It must be acknowledged that the histories of morris sides, as troupes of dancers are known, are bristling with anniversaries and traditions. The description of any innovation tends to be followed by the contented words, "this has now become an annual fixture". The Ravensbourne

n Keston Village Hall, just south of Bromley, Kent, the Ravensbourne Morris Men are about to set off for their annual Boxing Day dance. On one of the two tables in the room are soft drinks, all of which are entirely untouched. On the other is hot punch, around which several men are cheerfully jostling with

the Ravensbourne Men put on a dance just for him. That said, though, what happened in 1899 surely merits the commemoration it will be receiving throughout the next 12 months. It was in that year, on Boxing Day (one of the few winter days on which morrising occurs), that the revival of folk dancing began with the chance meeting in Oxfordshire of a musician/schoolteacher called Cecil Sharp, and William Kimber of the Headington Quarry Morris Side. The Side performed their dances and Sharp, entranced, set about his life's work of collecting and propagating folk songs and dances.

Such dances – whose source most morris dancers put somewhere between "pagan" and "lost in the mists of time" – had been popular at all levels of society under Elizabeth I, and seemingly for a while thereafter. But they had dwindled throughout the 19th century, when there was a great movement of population from the land to the towns. As rural life seemed threatened, so it became increasingly romanticised by people whose views were perhaps coloured by the fact that they had never done a day's stone-picking on an empty stomach in a sodden field for next to no money.

Sharp was searching for a lost British Arcadia

that also haunted the likes of Thomas Hardy, Gertrude Jekyll, Ralph Vaughan Williams, William Morris and John Ruskin (famous for writing The Stones of Venice; less well known for relaunching the maypole). This folk revival had overtones that were both socialistic and nationalistic. Against a background of international tensions, rural traditions were thought of as a common denominator around which the nation could unite.

At folk dancing's HQ, Cecil Sharp House in Camden, there is poignant, flickering footage of

BY ANDREW MARTIN

Sharp's associate, the composer George Butterworth, goofily dancing the morris shortly before being killed at the Somme. But the Great War only emphasised the malignity of industrial society. It actually encouraged rural romanticism, as did the Second World War, which was followed by the second big folk revival, and a boom time for morris dancing.

This yearning for a rural idyll remains a large part of our culture, and is most particularly at the heart of morris dancing, which is currently neither booming nor on the critical list. When, for instance, I ask David Jex, manager of east Surrey Dial-A-Ride and a former Bagman (or secretary) of the Ravensbourne side, no explain the appeal of the morris, he talks dreamly of "standing looking across

the Weald of Kent of a summer's evening".

There is more to it than that, though. When you see pictures of morris dancers in books, the

question presses upon you with great urgency: why do they do it? But when you encounter them in the flesh, the answers are obvious.

For a start, they do cut a dash. The Ravensbourne Mens' own take on the quite nebulous morris dress codes is compelling. Setting off in their John Bull hats and black cloaks towards their dancing venue - The Greyhound pub in Keston - they have a sinister, highwayman-ish glamour. And the delicacy of their neckerchiefs, leg-tassles and bells only points up the grizzled manliness of their faces. Their appearance puts me in mind of a word of warning I had received at Cecil Sharp House: "Call a morris

man quaint and he'll bounce you on your head."

Thanks to weekly practices, they're all pretty lean, too. One of the dancers, Ian Peretti, who works for Sony and is The Fool of the side (a title which is no reflection on his intelligence, but probably something to do with ancient fertility rites) tells me that he recently went into hospital for an operation on his knee, and the surgeon said: "Good God! What contains do you do to get myseles like that?"

exercise do you do to get muscles like that?".

The other aspect is the social one. The Ravensbourne Men are obviously great mates, and when a former member of the side, now exiled in Cardiff, turns up at the last minute to join in the dancing, the cheers are deafening. It also seems that all their practices end in visits to the pub, and most of their

dances take place at pubs...
"But that's purely coincidental," says David
Jex, not very convincingly. "The fact is that a pub
usually has an outside space for dancing, and toilet
facilities, too." It is true that the Ravensbourne Men

their belts ("It gives the wrong impression," Ian Peretti tells me). But, on the other hand, they do carry about with them a great clanking pail labelled "Beer Bucket".

We are now approaching The Creathound, and

spurn the morris tradition of wearing tankards on

We are now approaching The Greyhound, and with a sudden cry of "Hup!" from the master of ceremonies, Jex, the Ravensbourne Men start dancing down the road in a sinuous skipping crocodile. The effect is totally heart-lifting, the dancers resembling slimmer versions of that ecstatic figure in the famous postcard captioned "Skegness is so bracing".

In the pub car park, before a rain-soaked crowd of 300, the performance proper gets underway, starting with "Bean Setting", the dance that Kimber showed Sharp a hundred years ago, which involves

the complicated manipulation of ash sticks. After a series of dances with superb names like "The Buttoon", "Step and Fetch Her" and "The Vandals of Hammerwich", two of the finest dancers in the side perform what looks like free-form skipping, but with complex and exhilarating embellishments. These men are Wayne Taylor, a publican from far-flung Mill Hill, who apparently watched morris dancers when he was four and vowed, there and then, to become one himself, and Jim Bartlett, a former schoolteacher who once danced all the way from Orpington to Worcester. Later, I ask him why he did this, and he sucks on his pipe for a long time. "That's a good question," he says eventually. (A modest answer because the Continued on page 2

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TOMORROW IN THEINDEPENDENT **ON SUNDAY**

REVIEW



Anita Brookner on a new exhibition of **Ingres' paintings**



What happens when you snort heroin? Aerobics teacher Emily Jenkins describes her experience

CULTURE



A new short story by Will Self

REAL LIFE



Marian Salzman gazes into her crystal ball: we glimpse the future

PLUS Michael Bateman talks to Rick Stein



Panto Season No 6: The finale of 'Dick Whittington', in dress rehearsal at the Northcott Theatre. Exeter

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number, fax to 0171 293 2056 or e-mail to letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity

Euro visions

Sir: Your survey of the likely key players in the British debate over the European single currency ("Blair treads softly on new currency", 30 December) overlooks the critical impact of the analysis developed by the left of the Labour Party, especially the Socialist Campaign Group of MPs and MEPs.

Although included in the list of the "Antis" is Labour MP Austin Mitchell, his criticisms of the single currency come from the radical centre. The Campaign Group's critique comes from both the traditional left, such as Tony Benn, and the modernist left, such as Nottingham South MP Alan Simpson, the most articulate exponent of the criticism of modern capitalism and the corrosive effects of "globalisation" on local and regional economies, co-operative trade, and global ecology.

There will be a massive "democratic deficit" if we sign up to the euro, as the rules of the European Central Bank prohibit interference with the ECB's operations or decisions by EU governments or parliaments. The euro bankers are unelected and not removeable, even if they make a disastrous hash of it. Elected governments and parliaments will be able to make a lot of noise, but not legally to take

any corrective action. I support Mr Prescott's renewed call in his Independent interview (30 December) for traditional Labour values in a modern setting. Labour must continue to be for the many and not the few. Very shortly we will see that the euro embodies the opposite principle. Dr DAVID LOWRY Stoneleigh, Surrey

Sir: Ron West Cletter, 1 January) seems to accept that Britain must join a larger currency bloc and argues that this should be the US dollar. Not everyone would accept that sterling must be subsumed in another currency but if the choice is between being a senior partner in Europe or an

appendage to the USA with roughly the same influence as Puerto Rico, then I would plump for Europe.

As for our similarities with the US, I would be happier if we resembled Europe rather than the US on prison populations, teenage pregnancy rates and levels of drug abuse. **GRAHAM PERKINS** Bromyard, Herefordshire

Sir: The myope is not Lord Howe but Ron West when he advocates the dollar over the euro. Firstly, international use of the dollar has not been spreading but shrinking for some years now, the advent of the euro ensures a dramatic decrease in the dollar's world role in the near future. Secondly, some 60 per cent of Britain's trade is with Euroland: this is three times more than with the United States. Thirdly, the euro is on offer to us; the dollar is not. JIM MANGLES Wortham, Norfolk

Affairs of honour

Sir: A friend of mine, Mrs Phyl McMillan, was included in the New Year Honours as an MBE, having dedicated almost 50 years of her life to the unpaid teaching of disabled swimmers.

When nominating her. I resisted the temptation to suggest a peerage, or a knighthood, rather than a less prestigious honour, because I thought it would be considered inappropriate. I now wonder if I was right. At a time of debate as to how best to modernise the House of Lords, am I alone in questioning the criteria by

which honours are awarded? By way of example only, have not the acting of Sir Nigel Hawthorne and the boxing of Prince Naseem Hamed MBE already been properly recognised by the fame and fortune each has so deservedly achieved?

As the millennium approaches, should a number of honours still be reserved for those who are in paid employment in the civil and diplomatic services and the

At least as regards the CBE, OBE and MBE, would it not be preferable if they were awarded for unpaid service to

the community and all recipients (rather than simply a majority as at present) had to be nominated by members of the public? DAVID C BATE QC London EC4

Sir: Your call to "reshape the honours system" (leading article, 31 December) deserves responses. In common with the sentiments of many recipients, Nigel Hawthorne said, "It's an honour for the profession". So why not give honours to the organisation in which a recipient works, not to

an individual? Let the Queen give honours only to those who merit them for voluntary activity. At present CBEs often go to the best paid. OBEs to the fairly well paid and MBEs to the rest. Could this be classbased? Perish the thought

under New Labour Why do members of the armed services receive honours for unspecified activities? These should

be discontinued. The publicising by Downing Street of the fact that members of the "nationalist community" in Northern Ireland had declined to accept honours sets a useful precedent. All refusals should be publicised and the reasons given. This would helpfully develop the debate over the future of honours.

Why do we still regard honours with amused respect? We should treat with bemused contempt a system which often gives an honour to those already well rewarded. On these and other grounds I refused an OBE in 1993. JOHN D ANDERSON Shipley, West Yorkshire

Road and rail

Sir: The deal by Deputy Prime Minister John Prescott and Chancellor Gordon Brown to earmark road toll revenues for public transport investment is one whose significance has not received the public recognition it deserves ("Prescott bins the

soin for real policies", 30 December).

No longer will councils' transport investment packages have to rely entirely upon the unpredictable central government grant regime. For cities such as Edinburgh the agreement presents the opportunity to look to the long term and deliver a world-class public transport system. Without this it will be impossible to achieve our traffic reduction targets and the strong economy and healthy environment to which we aspire.

For years it was widely perceived that Treasury resistance to earmarking would eventually win through. CIIr DAVID BEGG Convener of Transportation Edinburch

Sir: The Deputy Prime Minister and the Chancellor of the Exchequer are reported to be looking for more substance and less spin. They should begin with the railways. Traditionally our railways.

even before the state system was imposed in 1948, were (though fleeced by the Treasury in two world wars and during privatisation regarded as a public service. Now Railtrack and the operating companies have as their main concerns their shareholders Railtrack now routinely

presents repair and maintenance as though it were an investment; the operators, under a feeble system of regulation and franchising, increasingly ignore the interests of travellers as Treasury subsidies diminish: and all freight operators, despite their competent performance, wait in vain for Railtrack to provide adequate trackage; they cannot build their own dedicated main lines as long as the split between operations and ownership of

infrastructure persists. Meanwhile, the factions in John Prescott's superministry lack coherent thought. A new "strategic" rail authority will be one more layer of bureaucracy incapable of correcting inequities between different modes of inland transport.

Yet the nation needs a decent railway system. Hypothecation of taxes upon

transport - at last permitted by the Treasury - should be directed in part to buying back for the public a controlling interest in the railways as part of a comprehensive policy of public enterprise, both passenger and freight. Professor GEORGE Church Enstone, Oxfordshire

Holiday plans

Sir: I agree with Emrys Turner (letters, 31 December) that we could do with a more even distribution of public holidays, but I would go further. Why not allow employees to choose their own eight days, in addition to their personal holiday allowance?

With careful planning many firms could then operate throughout the year, instead of closing for up to two weeks over Christmas and the New Year and for long weekends at four other times.

If that worked, why not then consider a still greater choice of days off to include those we usually take on Saturdays and Sundays? Many businesses, I know, need all employees in at more or less the same times. but if working practices are becoming more flexible such changes might be accommodated. ANDREW PITCAIRN-HILL London SW7

The name game

Sir: Philip Parkin's understanding that registrars have the responsibility of advising parents on the usual spelling of names (letter, 28 December) may or may not be correct. Even if it is, the successful completion of this duty does depend on the registrar being able to spell.

For some years I worked with a colleague whose parents had come to England as Jewish refugees from Austria in the 1930s. When their daughter was born shortly after they arrived in England, they decided to call her Anita. However, their grasp of English was still poor, and so they relied on the

registrar to spell the chosen name correctly.

Sadly, the registrar chose to spell it with a double "n" as Annita. Throughout her life whenever my colleague has been asked for her name for some official or semi-official reason, she has had to spell it. And as a child at school she was often disciplined by her teachers for not being able to spell her own name correctly. GORDON WHITEHEAD Ripon, North Yorkshire

IN BRIEF

Sir. Every year at this time we read about the thousands of 'game" birds, which are slaughtered for sport. Not a peep from the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds. Is it not time that it changed its name or changed section 4(f) of its objectives " ... to take no part in the question of killing of game birds and legitimate sport of that character"? Members of the RSPB hav not been allowed to debate or vote on this issue. Is the RSPB afraid of its patrons? **C SAUNDERS** Sale, Cheshire

Sir: I'm not sure why Mrs Dean thinks St Stephen's Day is an "appropriate time" to visit a "wonderful building" (letter 31 December), I am sure she would have got in free of charge on the previous day. She might even have learnt a little more of what the church actually teaches. SUE GOODMAN Tounton, Somerset

Sir: The Australian meaning of "wowser" as a religious fanatic reported by Christopher Hawtree (Words. 23 December) and Len Clarke (letter, 1 January) is certainly earlier than any British or North American usage. However, my mother knew the word "wowser" in the East Midlands in the 1940s, but not with this meaning. She had a saying for any object of a bizarre or indeterminate purpose: it was "a whimwham for a wowser to wind up the moon". DAVID J SHAW Canterbury

Saturday afternoon fever

Continued from page 1 marathon dance, like most morris

events, was in aid of charity.) As the dances continue outside The Greyhound, and the charity collection circulates, there's a notable absence of mickey-taking from the crowd. But the Ravensbourne Men do get their fair share, often from people quoting the old joke. "Try anything once - except plagued also by cries of "Which one's Morris?", which apparently

heard it a thousand times. (The derivation of the word, incidentally, is unknown.)

Morris dancers are undoubtedly a magnet for every second-rate satirist in Britain, and several of my phone calls to sides went unreturned before I hooked up with Ravensbourne, who agreed to meet me out of genuine affability, and because they're hoping to recruit themselves as an only "averagely thriving side but extremely tradi-

think is the correct approach, given that morris dancing is probably something to do with ancient

fertility rites. There are about a hundred sides of a dozen or so men each in the exclusively male association, the Morris Ring. But in the early Seventies, women started or, as they would with some justification have incest and folk-dancing". They are new members. They describe it, re-started morrising, and the mixed-sex sides are catered for by The Morris Federation and The really gets to you when you've tional". By this they mean that Open Morris. These together ac-

their side is male only, which they count for marginally more dancers than are in the Ring.

The folk-rock movement of the late Sixties and early Seventies helped morris dancing; some newer leisure trends (like Sky bloody Sport) have worked against it. Other folkish commodities are currently more fashionable - especially anything involving the word "Celtic". Generally, though, morris dancing chimes in well with

our heritage-minded age. Heritage - in some ways a perpetuation of the rural romanti-

cism described above - is about searching for the consolation of tradition in a fragmented and fastmoving world. Intertwined with this is post-modernism: our mixand-match culture. How else to account for the following scene, played out in The Greyhound when the dancing has stopped?

The Ravensbourne Men are dipping their personalised tankards (not worn on the belt, perhaps, but certainly kept close at hand; into their beer bucket and belting out the Queen hit "We Will Rock You".

They started doing this on Boxing Day a couple of years ago and it has, to coin a phrase, "now become an annual fixture". Listening to their lusty choruses of the song, overlain with strange and rather beautiful folk harmonies, it is obvious that the second-rate satirists of England have no cause to worry. Morris dancing is good for another hundred years at least.

Anyone interested in joining the Ravensbourne Morris Men should call lan Peretti on 0181-643 3863



*THE INDEPENDENT

1 CANADA SQUARE, CANARY WHARF, LONDON E14 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171 345 2435 THE INDEPENDENT ON THE INTERNET: WWW.INDEPENDENT.CO.UK

The real challenges of the next century are scientific

READERS OF The Independent are, we suspect, not greatly taken by millenarianism. They are rational enough to be unimpressed by what is, after all, just a number, and one based on a doubtfully-dated event. And they are probably pedantic enough to know that the millennium does not begin until the end of the 2000th year.

All the same, who does not feel a slight frisson of excitement at that row of nines in the date, expectantly ticking towards the big change? Which child has not watched a digital station clock with fascination as it reaches 59 minutes and 59 seconds past the hour? There is something about the sense of mathematical closure, of imposing human order on time, which should inspire us to turn our faces optimistically to the future.

At the very least, this New Year - and next - offer the chance for a grander-than-usual making of resolutions and a deeper-than-usual thought about the future. This is a task for which our political leaders are peculiarly ill-equipped. For all its rhetoric of modernity, New Labour has virtually nothing to say about the real challenges which face this country over the next century.

Nor do church leaders show much sign of guiding us through the moral maze. Although we should pause here to praise the Pope, who tends not to get much houseroom in the establishments of liberalism. He came out in his New Year message against the death penalty. (Le Monde responded memorably with a cartoon of Christ on the cross muttering, "Il n'est jamais trop tard...") That should make Jean Paul II's trip to the United States at the end of this month interesting. But that is part of the unfinished business of the century now passing.

The real priests of the future are scientists, as they have been since the Industrial Revolution. It is essential that we do not accord them too much reverence, and that we continue to break down the barriers around specialist knowledge. One of the hopeful trends of recent years has been the success of writers popularising science, and one of the promises held out by the Internet is that of a huge democratic marketplace of ideas and information which will open up science for all.

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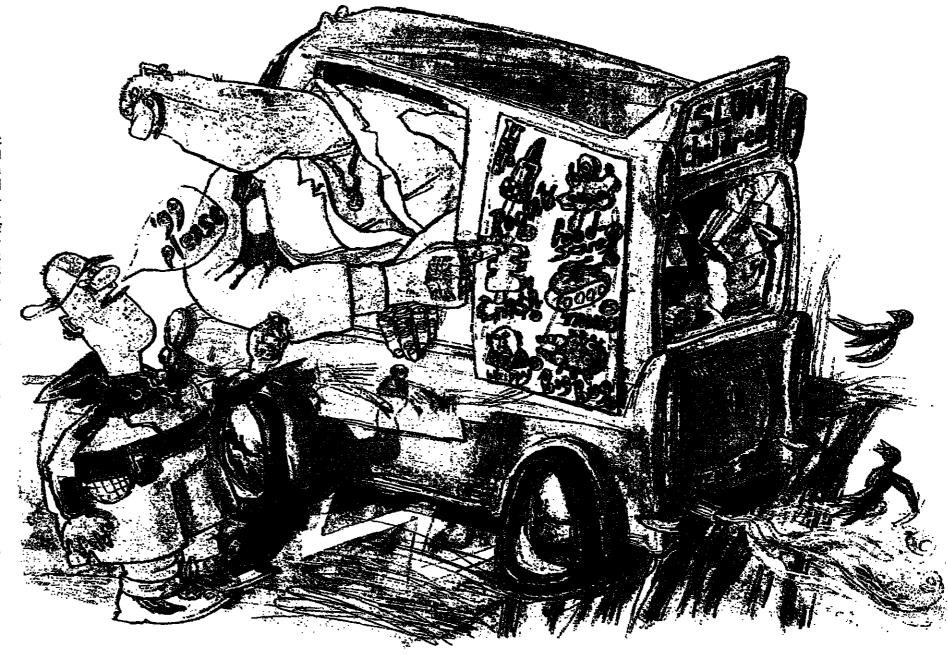
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And the real challenges for the future are scientific, in that the great dilemmas of morality and politics are set by the expansion of human knowledge. Above all, we face the choices posed by genetics. In the next century it will be possible to clone human beings and for rich people to select many of the characteristics of their offspring, including intelligence. Humans will be able to control not just their future, but their evolution as a species.

These are not developments to be afraid of, although many of their consequences may be disturbing, not least because such knowledge also offers the possibility of solvcriding problem left by the 20th century, of humanity's unsustainable use of the earth's resources. Too often, the lay person's instinct is defensive and Luddite - ban cloning, impose a moratorium on testing, stop finding out about how to do difficult things - instead of embracing the possibilities that the search for knowledge brings, a search which cannot in any case be blocked or diverted.

What matters, though, is that scientists constantly strive to demystify what they do and bring it into the range of understanding of moral choices made by the societies in which they live.



Conformity cannot be true discipline

PLANNING YOUR holidays this weekend? The nanny state wants to tell you when you are permitted to travel. David Blunkett would like to draw your attention to Government Guidelines on the Taking of Holidays and Efficient Administration of Schools.

The Education Secretary's response to the narrowminded bleating of headteachers, who claim their schools are being disrupted by children going on holiday in term-time, is worrying on two counts. Less ness of the Gov ernment's desire to tell travel agents how they should price their products, as if some edict from Gosplan could dictate that off-season and peak-period holidays should cost the same and thus eliminate the financial incentive to travel during school terms. It says a lot about New Labour's commitment to the "dynamic market economy" that Mr Blunkett thinks that the laws of supply and demand can be suspended over beer and sandwiches with a bunch of tour operators.

But more fundamental is what it tells us about the Government's instinct for conformity. If parents make a considered decision that their children would learn more by doing interesting things with them than by being at school, how dare headteachers appeal for state sanctions to declare otherwise? And why should Mr Blunkett indulge them by agreeing that it is all very worrying, instead of reminding them sharply that the primary legal responsibility for a child's education lies with the parent?

It has been a fundamental principle of law since the 1944 Education Act, that, while education is compulsory, attendance at school is not, and that it is up to parents to decide how their children shall be educated (in England and Wales at least - in Scotland, unfortunately, parents need "permission" to teach children at home).

For all Mr Blunkett's commendable focus standards and how to raise them, this Government has an alarming tendency to slide away from this basic liberal premise underlying the provision of state education. Instead of instinctively siding with the rights of free citizens - pupils and parents - the Government seems to equate going on holiday at a time inconvenient to a school with truancy.

Which is all the more alarming from a Government which already sees truancy as a police matter rather than, as is often the case, a rational response to what a young person justly sees as a waste of their time.

Instead of being indulged, any headteacher who thinks like that should automatically lose any chance of the extra salary incentives this Government has promised them. Mr Blunkett should not confuse discipline with conformity, nor learning with regimentation.

Star gazing

ARNOLD SCHWARZENEGGER can now take his son to nursery without being pursued by paparazzi, thanks to a new law of privacy which came into effect in California yesterday. Hollywood stars, who complained their lives were made intolerable by the attentions of otographers, are hardly the most convincing o oppressed minorities, but they do have rights too. And before we get too superior we should note that California has effectively codified in law the British Press Code of Practice. The law allows redress when a person is filmed or photographed, even in public places, "in circumstances where they had a reasonable expectation of privacy". The British code bans the use of long lenses in the same circumstances. But voluntary regulation has clearly failed in this country: as long as the poor unknown who gets done over by the tabloids is protected too, California may, once again, be our future.

A guilt-free escape from bad weather and boring food

WE CAME home in darkness and cold. weighed down by the legacy of Lost to us the big skies, the warmth and sunshine. Home to little streets, terraced houses and the silence of Christmas roads. How forbidding and sad London looks in the early dark, a city trudging cold and tired into the last days of the year. At such moments I wonder why I am living here. And I come up with just one answer: work. Just the work. What a grim admission.

Sorry, Londoners, I try to like the city of my birth but it really is a struggle, especially after Christmas in Cape Town. The taxi driver tried his best to console us on the way in from Heathrow. He said the weather was mild compared to last week. Nine degrees and holding. But what did he know? The day before as we flew out of Cape Town it was hovering around 30 with the sun glancing on the blue water at Camps Bay and the beach crowded with the children of the

Paragliders sailed over rim of Table Mountain, their shadows like the wings of giant hawks swooping down the mountain towards the green suburbs. Out on the bay ferries were plying tourists back and forth to Robben Island on a calm sea. The political prison where Nelson Mandela spent most of his 27 years in jail has become a tourist mecca. When I first came to the city in the early Eighties Mandela was still in residence and tourists, or any kind of visitors, would have been arrested for approaching the island. How things change.

Having spent several weeks working m the dust and squalor of the squatter camps around Johannesburg, I was ready for Cape Town. I know that the city's critics deride it as an island of privilege in a country

Driving in from the airport the traveller cannot fail to notice the vast squatter encampments which are separated from the city by the imposing bulk of Table Mountain. And, yes, some of the local whites are unbearably smug about their good life between the mountain and sea. Worse still are the new European arrivals who have bought vast houses and established themselves as a kind of imported gentry. "Eurotrash" the locals contemptuously call them.

But none of my reservations can take anything away from the seductive beauty of the Cape. It is the landscape that draws me back time and again; landscape and, of course, the friendships forged in the darker days of the South African story. A Canadian friend who had gone to Kenya for Christmas gave us the use of his home on the slopes overlooking Camps Bay. Most days we took to the road exploring the beaches and coves of the Cape coast: Noordhoek with its great expanse of white sand and blue water, Scarborough and Witsands where the light sea mist drapes the rocks and dunes in late afternoon, and Hout Bay where we spent Christmas Day.

It rained in the morning and Fr Thornton's plans for an open air mass were hastily abandoned. And so we crowded into the tiny church, to listen to the elderly priest's pious exaltations and breathe in the smoke of incense which his helpers liberally swept along the aisles. Being not remotely pious and an individual of some imperfection I always feel guilty when I go to mass. It is a sense that everybody around me is "good" and that I am not, I am also an infrequent



FERGAL KEANE Baboons on Christmas Day? Will my son remember it when he grows up? I will

observer of Catholic ritual. My friend Father Dick, an Irish priest whom we met for Christmas lunch, said it didn't matter as long as you made the effort. But I am pursued by Catholic guilt and it took several bottles of good South African wine to rescue me from my sombre meditations.

I am happy to report that for the first time in my life I ate Christmas hinch at a restaurant. And also for the first time I did not eat turkey and ham. Such bravery at the age of 37! The small Italian restaurant on the beach was serving baked lamb and baby chicken. It was a long and happy lunch, one of the best Christmas days I can remember.

There was only depressing moment. An elderly German arrived at the restaurant accompanied by a large white dog. The man was old enough to have had an interesting past and his political opinions suggested a strong right-wing inclination. He told us the dog was a cross between a wolf and a husky. And then a black beggar

the beast and shrugged the beggar away. "If you want mone y go and ask Mandela for it," he barked.

It is the standard reply of the disgruntled white who cannot bear the reality of a black ruled South Africa. Blacks knocking on white doors looking for jobs hear it all the time. It suggests, at the very least, a remarkable absence of humility on the part of the former ruling class. What do they think South Africa would have been like without Mandela and his gift of reconciliation and forgiveness? After several glasses of wine my capacity for indignation was ripe. I was about to read the riot act to our German friend when Father Dick pulled me back. "It is Christmas day, let it go", he said.

He was right. Christmas day is not time for arguments. And so we climbed into Dick's car and headed for Cape Point in search of baboons. I had told my nearly-three-year-old that the Cape was full of monkeys and apes. The prospect of a meeting thrilled him greatly. But so far they had been noticeably reluctant about showing themselves. "Where are the baboons Dad?" came the insistent question every evening as we drove home after another apeless day.

Just outside Simonstown on a narrow stretch of road between mountain and sea we encountered a large family group. They sat in the road and stopped the traffic. The bolder ones climbed onto cars and began to beg for food. A bus full of Chinese tourists stopped directly ahead of us. Hands appeared out of the windows. One of them trying to stroke the head of a male baboon. We honked our horn furiously. A baboon's bite is particularly

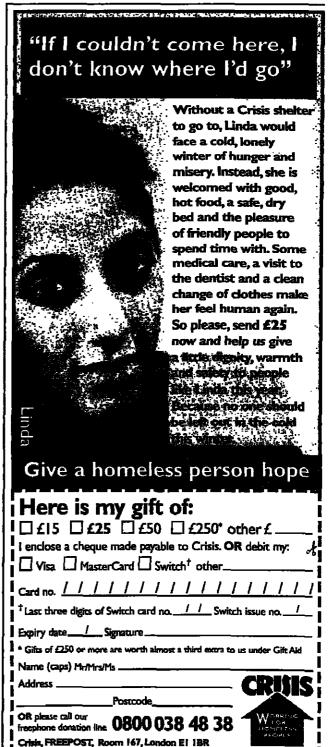
approached. The dog growled men-ferocious and they are, however, faacingly. The German barely restrained miliar with humans, still wild animals. The Chinese were puzzled by our concern. It reminded me of an incident when I was living in South Africa in the early Nineties and a group of Chinese visited a lion park outside Johannesburg. Two of the group got out of their vehicle and posed for a picture with the lions. The result: two dead Chinese tourists. But my son was delighted by the spectacle on the road ahead of us. Baboons on Christmas Day! Will he remember it when he grows up? I'd like to think he would but I suppose not. I will though.

On the night before leaving for home we travelled out to the winelands for a barbecue on the farm of my friends, Richard and Silvanna. Richard is a cameraman whom I came to know while living in South Africa. We still work together from time to time. But these days most of his efforts are taken up with fruit farming. It is as far away as you can imagine from battlefields and squatter camps. A saner life.

His farm sits below the Great Drakenstein mountain near the town of Franschoek. There are rows of peach and nectarine and apple trees. There are horses and some ducks and even some baboons and wild boar who raid the fruit orchards at night. As dusk came on Richard lit the firewood and the great mountain above us melted into shadow. His four young boys disappeared into the fruit groves with our son. And we adults relaxed and opened some wine and spoke of old times on the road. It was Christmas all right but not like I'd ever known it.

Fergal Keane is a BBC News special

4D



MONITOR

ALL THE NEWS OF THE WORLD IN 1998

Bill Clinton • Labour and sleaze • Northern Ireland • Kosovo • General Pinochet • World Cup • Global economic crisis

LABOUR AND SLEAZE

Reflections on the allegations of misbehaviour levelled at members of Tony Blair's government

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH

IMPRESSION AND image assume overwhelming importance to a Government whose success has been based on successfully manipulating them. And the prevailing impression is starting to be that "Tony's cronies" are selling control over the formulation of Government policy to BLAIR'S GOVERNMENT used to be the highest bidder. "We must be pure," the Prime Minister said. The purest form of democracy remains the parliamentary system, difficult as it may be to rouse public enthusiasm in defence of this institution.

THE TIMES

THE DRAPER episode reflects the culture of a political party that has been propelled to office by the energy and dynamism of a small clique of advisers. If the investigation into the activities of special advisers exposes wrongdoing, the culprits should be dismissed. Whatever the case, if Mr Blair really wants "to clean up politics", a noble objective, then he should begin very close to

DAILY TELEGRAPH

HOW CAN Mr Robinson justify being a Treasury minister in a government pledged to clamp down on the use of tax havens, when he himself is the beneficiary of a Guernsey trust exempt from UK tax? And how on earth can he reconcile this with his proposals to restrict the tax breaks available on everybody else's savings? Throughout this whole affair, Mr Robinson seems to have gone to great lengths to comply with the letter of the rules, rather than their spirit. That might be permissible for a businessman. It is not good enough for a minister.

News of the World

RON DAVIES blames his downfall on an error of judgement. But it was more than that. It was a betrayal of

sidered him the right man for the job and gave it to him in the belief that he would honour that trust. Instead Ron Davies betrayed his party and dragged politics into the gutter.

THE SUN

as pure as snow. Now a part of it has drifted. Geoffrey Robinson faces another inquiry into his business life. The Paymaster General is accused of 13 breaches of company law. He remains innocent until proved guilty but if he is a man of honour he should withdraw from office until the probe is complete. Otherwise, Trade and Industry supremo Peter Mandelson will have the embarrassing task of sitting in judgment on a fellow Minister.

BIRMINGHAM POST

IT IS almost impossible to believe that Blair's spin-doctors were not aware of all the issues surrounding Mr Davies's departure. Indeed, the Welsh Secretary was accompanied by the Prime Minister's press secretary when he gave his one and only television interview on the subject. That being the case, Downing Street's intimations of ignorance sound more like attempts to deflect questioning.

THE GUARDIAN

OUR VIEW remains that Peter Mandelson was guilty of vanity rather than venality and that since the source of his funding - a loan, not a gift, was from a ministerial colleague rather than an outside businessman, it hardly plumbs the depths of the Tory years.

DAILY MAIL

MR BLAIR came to power promising an end to even the appearance of sleaze. Yet from the Formula One imbroglio to Geoffrey Robinson's labyrinthine financial affairs and Mr man when he promoted him to Sec- arrangements, that "purity" has retary of State for Wales. He con- often seemed less than pristine.

The year of Monicagate

THE DALLAS MORNING News

PRESIDENT CLINTON has joined an ignoble list. The House of Representatives' decision to allow the House Judiciary Committee to launch an impeachment inquiry against Clinton, places him alongside Nixon and Johnson, both of whom went through stages of impeachment. What a badge of shame. It's not too late for the President to spare the country more protracted turmoil by resigning. If not, the inquiry will begin after the elections. May it be fair and prompt. The public deserves at least that much.

THE WASHINGTON POST

THE HOUSE made the right decision in authorising an open-ended inquiry into whether Clinton should be impeached. Democrats tried to limit the investigation, arguing that Republicans would abuse the writ. Our instinct is to doubt that. If the Republicans include in a standing inquest into the President's behaviour, as a few have threatened, it will be they who pay, with cause, the greater price in terms of pub-

THE LOS ANGELES TIMES

THIS IS all familiar stuff but it's going to be rehashed nonetheless. Given the public's strongly expressed wish to have this whole matter over and done with, it will be interesting to see how much attention is paid to the planned coverage of the committee's hearings. Chairman Hyde originally and laudably said he intended to hold quick, decorous and focused hearings. Right now, unhappily, none of these objectives seem realizable. We may have seen this movie before, but like it or not we're going to have to sit through it again.

NEW YORK TIMES

WE STILL do not see impeachment as the appropriate legal response. A substantial majority of the American people would not support impeachment or removal on the

IMPEACHMENT OF BILL CLINTON

US comment on the wisdom of Congress removing the President from office for committing 'high crimes and misdemeanors'

yesterday was that he has no more to offer. Mr Starr has dark and reasonable suspicions about, say, jobs for silence, but he cannot prove them. Those parts that he can prove, such as Mr Clinton's blatant lying under oath about sex, will not be supported as grounds for impeachment by a major-

BOSTON GLOBE

UNDOUBTEDLY, THE president, who is also the nation's chief law enforcement officer, lied to the investigators and to the American people. But do these lies constitute perjury in the narrow legal sense, and if ity of the House, even though it is controlled so, do they constitute grounds for im-

of the United States? Undoubtedly, the investigation itself has been deeply flawed. But so flawed that its findings and charges should be dismissed - the fruit of the poison tree, as the lawyers say?

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

THE EXTREME punishment of removal from office is disproportionate to Clinton's misconduct. Both houses of Congress ought to pass a searing condemnation of his disregard for the law. Some critics have called such a censure an affront to the constitution, which specifies the process of impeachment and conviction. On the contrary, it is a sensible middle ground between the over-reaction of impeachment and the unacceptability of doing nothing.

SALON MAGAZINE

OPPONENTS OF impeachment stress the harm that the process might inflict on the country. Excuse me? Is there any Democrat who has voiced second thoughts about the Watergate inquiries? Wasn't it an extreme step to terminate a president who had run the country well for six years and remained popular with the majority of the voting public until the moment his own party turned against him? Suppose that a few honorable Democrats were to step forward now to provide the concrete evidence of Clinton's obstructions of justice and to raise a non-partisan voice in support of his removal - what do you think that would do to the current poll numbers? David

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

TO THOSE who say they already know the facts and evidence against the president, we say fine. Let those facts and that evidence be laid out in a formal proceeding. On the other hand, if some evidence and details are not widely known, the whole purpose of the Senate trial is to get them on the table for the president to defend and the senators to judge. Only then will the nation as a whole gain a full understanding of the seriousness of the charges and

PEACE IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Analysis of whether the Good Friday Agreement signed at Stormont will bring an end to the Troubles in Ulster

THE IRISH NEWS N. Ireland

UNIONISM IS to embark on a realignment that has been overdue for 20 years. Nationalists will be spectators, reminiscent of the turmoil that afflicted Unionism in the early 70s as its politicians struggled equality.

Today they can play a unique role by using their preferences to support the Unionists who want change.

THE IRISH TIMES

IT WILL soon become clear whether pro-Agreement Unionists can countenance Sinn Fein as part of the new Northern Ireland executive in the absence of decommissioning. The evidence is they cannot. The reality is the Republican movement is conditioned to accept the kind of compromises that the agreement represents.

L'EST

REPUBLICAIN

OF COURSE the World Cup is

comething other than the

xdious unravelling of hatred we

ave seen. However, let's stop

teing so naive and recognise

once and for all that this

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ecome indistinguishable from

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ground for faithless, lawless

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LE MONDE

THIS TIME it's something

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Vorld Cup. A policeman left for

lead, battered, lynched with

ven others' lives.

TELEGRAPH N. Ireland

war between the two traditions should be at an end. There is a long way to go, and the parties linked to paramilitaries who to avoid the implications of have indicated that their war is over have yet to prove it, by action on decommissioning. There is a good chance, however, that, if the assembly vote goes the right way, Mr Trimble will be able to institute, as First Minister, the new Northern Ireland of which his predecessors could only dream.

> REPUBLICAN NEWS Eire and N. Ireland

IRISH UNITY and independence are the best context within which to tackle the political and social inequalities that face the Irish people. Sinn

WORLD CUP HOOLIGANISM

The French newspapers on the fighting among fans during the World Cup

commando of German hooli-

gans. The football doesn't incite

them; it shelters them with

guilty complacency. Football is

a way of release, of camouflage

or, in the case of the World Cup,

LIBERATION

lows from iron bars by a crowd and crushed by its brutal will be standing at the ready.

a media opportunity.

Fein is looking beyond the pre-BELFAST sent situation and towards a future based on freedom, justice and peace. A vote for Sinn Fein is a vote for the continuance of MR TRIMBLE has signalled, in the peace process. Sinn Fein his cautious way, that the cold has been the dynamic for chan-

ge over the years.

The best way to ensure that the pace of political progress continues is to go out and vote

Irish INDEPENDENT Eire

TRIMBLE IS banking on the hope that a clear majority of Protestants are prepared to step into the political unknown. But there is still so much mistrust in Northern Ireland's politics that it will take a long time for nationalists to accept that this politician may have turned a new corner, and that Unionism is perfectly capable of being refashioned to include inclusiveness and

supporters, each football team

symbolises what is most intol-

erant about each nation. It be-

comes a metaphor for war, but

fought according to strict rules:

on what battlefield could a

referee interrupt and send off

those who are fighting dirty?

After which war would the van-

quished accept defeat and

promise to do better next time?

L'EQUIPE

WITH EACH new drama the

football professionals and fan-

atics ask themselves what on

earth they did to invoke such

barbarity. Nothing, of course.

Let's not be hypocritical. The

World Cup will overcome.

Hundreds of thousands of peo-

ple will still carry their passion;

the cheers will echo around the

CHEERED ON by a chauvinist stadiums, and the forces of law

partnership.

WAR IN KOSOVO

Reactions to the threat of armed intervention by Nato to end the conflict in Kosovo

DIE WELT Germany

IT IS vital that Nato demonstrates to Milosevic, that his military actions are no longer appropriate. If he is still unmoved. Nato has to increase its potential threat. It is likely that Nato will be brought into action, which would be a lengthy and difficult operation. Is this really what is wanted?

HONG KONG STANDARD China

THE YUGOSLAVS are bent on wiping out as many Muslims as they can, creating a new Holocaust. American and European sacre of innocent Muslims by pretending to be issuing ultimatums. By their intransigence, Americans and Europeans are building up hate among the Arab states that will boomerang. The senseless killing has to be stopped.

SEVODNYA

BELGRADE OFFICIALS claim to have received letters from Russians offering to take part in the struggle against Nato with the Yugoslav army. Balkan roulette unfurls with invisible speed. This theatre of the absurd may become a theatre of war at any moment, with intervention in a sovereign state without the UN's mandate. All this could shake the system of international relations, with unpredictable consequences.

Russia

HONG KONG STANDARD

leaders are abetting this mas- THE BLOODSHED must be stopped. But care must be taken not to play into Milosevic's hands. Kosovo isn't (yet) a case of Bosnia revisited. Military action may be required but not before all other efforts are exhausted to isolate Milosevic and reverse his latest folly.

EXTRADITION OF GENERAL PINOCHET

Views on whether the UK should send Augusto Pinochet to Spain to face trial for murder and torture when he was head of state in Chile

EL PAIS Spain

IS THERE a more appropriate commemoration of the anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights than the British Home Secretary's decision to allow his courts to process our request for the extradition of Pinochet. The case has not only aroused international passions and unleashed controversy, but taken on a direction and speed that few would have dared predict. It is doing more for international law than decades of conventions ignored by signatory governments.

EL MERCURIO

THE BRITISH Labour Government has sought to ignore the fact that Chile is a sovereign and independent country. However, the minister (Britain's Home Secretary) can at any moment take political factors into account and decree the end

of the extradition process, and end the gravest situation that Chilean juridical sovereignty has had to face this century.

EL MUNDO

PINOCHET CAN no longer expect the British to be magnan-

day when he took the plane for

Spain

imous. Their government has shown courage in taking a decision that means he will not be able to leave Britain for a long time. He must be cursing the London and tea with Thatcher.

THE WASHINGTON POST

A ROGUE Spanish judge is using international law to trample Chilean sovereignty and overrule [its] functioning judiciary and democratically elected government. And advocates of the International Criminal Court are cheering. (Jesse Helm)

GLOBAL ECONOMIC CRISIS

Fears that the world economy might fall into a deflationary spiral

INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE US

THIS CRISIS is not an Asian crisis - it's a global emerging market crisis. The distinction is important, economists say, because, if there is nothing inherently Asian about the causes of the crisis, Latin America and Eastern Europe could easily be the next victims of economic turmoil. Economists say that the currents that contributed to the crisis are still at work because there are fundamental structural flaws in the global financial system.

THE AGE Australia

THESE MERRY-go-round politics have sent a ripple of panic through the West. The rouble's

plight of other national currencies. The financial markets' fears of a Russian collapse have led to demands that the West stop bailing Russia out. and the Russians solve their that spawned it.

LE MONDE France

NOT A day passes without more monetary, financial or economic bad news. After Russia. which will be the next country to founder? One very dark seenario could be possible a Latin American recession, which would shake Wall Street and provoke mass panic and huge withdrawals in American households. Psychological phenomenon have taken on such

difficulties were echoed in the importance in contemporary economics that turnaround can never be ruled out. The world economy is now in the hands of the markets. The Asia crisis hasn't led to the general ruin which some predicted. But it own financial problems. It is a has taught us that economic solution as blind as the panic matter has become explosive.

BUSINESS TIMES Singapore

ALARM BELLS are ringing in financial capitals around the world. If the run of seven fat

OUOTES OF THE YEAR

"I can honestly say I have voted for all the parties in my time and it's a constant disappointment." Jeremy Paxman, broadcaster and author

"Republican guns have been silenced, they have been taken out of commission" Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Fein

"There is a culture of cronyism at the heart of this government which is distinctly unpleasant." William Hague, leader of the opposition

"God is in Spaghetti Junction as much as anywhere else" Archdeacon John Barton, Birmingham Cathedral "What makes for a good economy makes

Gordon Brown, Chancellor of the Exchequer "I am not a great cook, and I've never been

for a good society."

interested in being one." Delia Smith, celebrity chef

States stock market.

years on Wall Street is about to end, are seven lean years to follow? American investors now seem persuaded that, for all the Federal Reserve's concerns about inflation, it is the deflationary spiral they should fear. Deflation could be the thing that ultimately unravels the United

crisis

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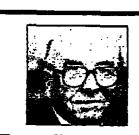
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AZINE

After half a century, Blair could get it right in Europe



ROY JENKINS Tony Blair is the most

instinctively European prime minister since Heath and a good deal more adept

THE BEST news of the last politically depressing month of 1998 was that Mr Blair might at last be prepared to take on the tabloids (and their honorary members in the shape of The Daily Telegraph and The Times) on Europe. He has good credentials for doing so. He is the most instinctively European prime minister since Edward Heath. He is also a good deal more adept a party leader than Heath ever was. Adeptness is a useful quality in leading opinion. But if it is allowed to become a way of life rather than a useful tool it can become a menace not an asset.

Mr Blair should remember that Heath's forthrightness, even if accompanied by a certain clumsiness, has made him almost the only prime minister of the past half century who has not had their reputation damaged (and in some cases their leadership destroyed) by equivocation on the European issue. Anthony Eden is widely regarded as the evil genius making the generosity of Churchill's fine late 1940s sentiments about a united Europe run into the dismal sand of Britain's standing aside from the Messina Conference which led to the Treaty of Rome. Harold Macmillan made a lunge forward but failed to convince de Gaulle of Britain's European vocation, which led to the General's veto beginning

the rundown of Macmillan's Government. Alec Douglas Home did nothing much, either good or bad, on Europe. Harold Wilson boxed several compasses on the issue, eventually walked backwards into a successful pro-European referendum, but nevertheless damaged both his reputation equivocation on the issue. James Callaghan maintained Britain's offshore record by being the only one of the then Community of nine to refuse fully to join the European Monetary System.

Margaret Thatcher signed the Single European Act (thereby surrendering more sovereignty than was involved in the treaties of either Maastricht or Amsterdam), but then swung her handbag so ferociously, not only at the summits of Madrid and Milan, but also against Sir Geoffrey Howe and Mr Nigel Lawson, as to ensure her own downfall. Mr Major was simply pole-axed by the European issue. It ruined his Government and made him a figure without influence on the continent and a cork on the top of competing Tory waves at home.

So Mr Blair has plenty of warnings to hand. Despite the immensely strong position of his Government, both in Parliament and with the public, and his own dominance within it, there has been little hard progress to show on the British European front. A better mood has been created. Personal relations with the main European leaders are improved, and partly as a result progress has been made on one or two awkward peripheral issues. Furthermore, according to the latest poll, the overwhelming majority of the public have become convinced of Britain's inevitable participation in the single currency, and believe that this is already the Govern-

ment's firm but unproclaimed intention. All this may be regarded as progress, but it is not glorious progress. Inevitability is not the same as desirability, and practically no advance has been made towards creating the positive majority which, with the commitment to a referendum is essential to bring about the "inevitable'. Furthermore there is evidence of some resentment that the Cabinet is thought to conceal rather than to display its hand. That this should be so 20 months into the life of the most popular Government in re-



Former premiers Edward Heath (right), Anthony Eden (left) and Harold Macmillan. Of the three, only Heath's reputation survived Europe

cent political history is surely a story of wasted opportunity.

Even with Mr Blair's capacity for walking on water, and with Mr Hague's inability even to swim in it, the first 20 months fore the most persuasive in the life of any government. It is, in my view, a great pity that a European referendum with a firm government lead was not held in the summer of 1998. With such a lead, provided it was pitched in positive and not apologetic terms, that soft hostility could easily have been dissipated and turned into a substantial "yes" majority, just as it was, starting from an even less favourable base, in the 1975 European referendum.

The moment was not seized and the result is not only a missed opportunity but Britain's sadly marginal position as the momentous European advance of this weekend unfolds itself. The City of London, still the strongest financial centre in Europe. will increasingly have to operate in a currency which we have not joined. We have an economy which successive Governments have for several years but with doubtful validity proclaimed to be the strongest in Europe. But we have a currency which, on its record over the past 40 years, should be one of the most eager to

dissolve itself in a wider entity. It is an amazing paradox that the Germans, who over this period have made the deutschmark into their most symbolic and valued national asset, a much more beneficent replacement for the Wehrmacht, should be willing to give it up in pursuit of a wider objective. In Britain, on the other hand, there is a pathetic attempt to erect the pound, which over this period has fallen from a value of 12 deutschmarks to one of less than three, into a national virility symbol.

What I find humiliating is not that we should contemplate merging this devalued currency but that we should once again, for at least the fourth time in post-war history, allow a great European initiative to go forward while standing on the sidelines and saying "we will join later if it works". Whatever else this may be, it is not an heroic stance. It is the equivalent, much despised in British traditional thought, of

those Balkan countries, Romania or Bulgaria say, who in the two world wars have waited to see which side was winning before deciding with whom to ally themselves.

Detachment may be admirable if not en it is based on a solendid a termined isolation, a firm rejection in principle of ever getting mixed up in the enterprise. And it may be wise if not admirable if it leads to effective free-riding, getting the benefits without taking the risks. But if it leads to neither but on the contrary to a weak and late entry with influence diminished, and to a markedly worse mediumterm economic performance than those (Germany, Italy, Ireland) who take greater risks, it is surely unwise to go on with the procrastinating formula.

Cannot we learn from the errors we have made with the Coal and Steel Community in 1951, with the Economic Community in 1957, and with the European Monetary System in 1979? We always join in the end, but at the wrong time and on worse terms.

The excuse of successive governments has been special difficulties with British public opinion. This is nonsense. The trouble with Britain's hesitant and ineffective handling of its European policy has nearly always lain with the politicians and not with the public. The public, as in 1971 at the time of entry and 1975 at the time of referendum has been willing to respond to a strong political lead. It has rarely had one. This has been partly due to the rigidities of the British party system.

For at least the last 30 years there has always been a considerable pro-European majority in the House of Commons. But it has been a cross-party majority. And party whips and party machines hate cross-party majorities. They undermine their authority. As a result a clear European voice from Britain, from Wilson to Major, has been inhibited by a series of party games.

Now, however, this government has a clear one-party pro-European majority. The Tories may have dug themselves into an anti-European bunker which is more extreme and less constructive than anything since their opposition to the repeal of the Corn Laws in 1846. (And there is no Dis-

raeli on the horizon who, having dug them in, has the flexible opportunism to dig them out.) But Tories in this Parliament do not greatly count.

The extra-parliamentary support of will be crucial in a referendum, and their views should never be taken for granted, but under Mr Hague's managership they are firmly relegated to the substitutes' bench. The Liberal Democrats are solid on Europe. And so are the great majority of Mr Blair's cohorts. Labour anti-Europeanism (and that is one great achievement of the present leadership) has become an old people's club.

This parliamentary strength deprives the Government of many excuses. There is a lot to be said against landslide majorities, but at least they ought to provide a basis for courage. Courage in this context means taking the European issue head-on, that is to say explaining why it is a great integrationist venture, one of the most constructive in the history of the world, in which we ought to be proud to join with France and Germany (a partnership as beneficent as it is miraculous) in playing a leadership role; and not simply muttering that Europe is a rather unimportant affair, but that it is on the whole better that we should be in than out.

The claim that the British people have been misled into believing that Europe was only a narrow almost technical affair of trading arrangements is greatly exaggerated. The purpose from the beginning was abundantly clear. It was to use economic means towards a political end, and that end was to restore Europe to the position of prosperity and influence in the world which it had so wantonly thrown away in the two wars of 1914-18 and 1939-45.

Nor was that object dodged by the pro-Europeans. I remember vividly the conversation that Edward Heath and I had immediately after the 1975 referendum. Between us, he as the Prime Minister who had taken Britain in and I as the president of the "yes' campaign, had probably addressed more meetings than anyone else, and we both agreed that, throughout the campaign, it was the political argument which "got' the audiences. On economics they listened politely. On the arguments about Britain's future place in the world, and how crucial Europe was to that, they

became engaged.

Nonetheless I think there has somehow little Europe was likely to do rather than how important it might be. Excessive defensiveness is always a bad posture for victory. I have long regarded the politics of Europe as more important than the economics. The single currency is crucial, both because the single market is hobbled without it and because no country outside it can hope to play a central role.

It will of course involve some further degree of both political and economic integration. I do not believe that Europe will ever become the analogue of the United States. Integration will stop well short of that. But I think Europe can and should evolve a lot further and I am not fearful of this. My attitude is very like that of Churchill's to Anglo-American co-operation in 1940. He thought that Britain and America would become increasingly "mixed up". "For my own part," he added. "I do not view the process with any misgivings. I could not stop it if I wished. No one can stop it. Like the Mississippi it just keeps rolling along. Let it roll. Let it roll on in full flood, inexorable, irresistible, be-

nignant, to broad lands and better days." That quotation obviously raises the question of whether it should now be with America and not with Europe that we should seek closer union. Warm transatlantic relations have never been incompatible with Britain's involvement with Europe. On the contrary our stand-offishness towards Europe has been a fairly constant source of exacerbation in our relations with Washington. But I find it more difficult today to admire American politics than at any time in the past 60 years. Nor do I wish Britain to be a satellite, as with the United States it would inevitably be, as opposed to an equal with the leading partners, which can be our role in Europe.

Lord Jenkins of Hillhead, as President of the European Commission, 1977-1981, helped launch the idea of monetary union in his Florence speech of 1977

Days Like These

LAN IRVINE



7 JANUARY 1953

JAMES POPE-HENNESSY, historian (pictured), writes to Nolven de Janzé from Martinique:

"If anything were needed to confirm my passionate francophilia, it would be the contrast between your way of treating the West Indies and ours - here you might really be in France, even the road signs are the same: it is all prosperous and civilised. Dominica, although we have owned it for 200 years, has not even got a road going round or through the island; and the 'capital' is a wooden village with some shops and a nice stone cathedral The food was filthy. and the people too depressing the worst sort of commercial suburban people, out there to make money quickly and then get home again. Here cultivated people have lived for nerations: I asked the woman in the local post office about something, and said is it just the same as in France. 'Mais, monsieur, c'est la France.' she replied with a charming negroid smile."

4 JANUARY 1790

ARTHUR YOUNG, a traveller in Revolutionary France, observes Louis XVI and the Royal Family held prisoner:

"After breakfast I walk in the gardens of the Tuileries, where there is the most extraordinary sight that either French or English eyes could ever behold at Paris. The King walking with six grenadiers of the milice bourgeoise, with an officer or two of his household and a page. The doors of the garden are kent shut in respect to him in order to exclude everybody but admission tickets. When he entered the palace the doors of the garden were thrown open for all without distinction. though the Queen was still walking with a lady of her court. She also was attended so closely by the gardes bourgeoises, that she could not speak, but in a low voice, without being heard by them. A mob followed her talking very loud, and paying no other apparent respect than that of taking off their hats wherever she passed, which was indeed more than I expected.

Her Majesty does not appear to be in health; she seems to be much affected and shows it in her face; but the King is as plump as ease can render him. By his orders, there is a little garden railed off for the Dauphin to amuse himself in and a small room is built in it to retire to in case of rain: here he was at work with his little hoe and rake, but not without a guard of two grenadiers. He is a pretty good-natured-looking boy of five or six years old, with an agreeable countenance; wherever he goes, all hats are taken off to him, which I was glad to observe.

All the family being kept thus close prisoners afford, at first view, a shocking spectacle; and is really so if the act were not absolutely necessary to effect the revolution.

THE ESSAY on the Star of Bethlehem in the edition of 19 December was extracted from Roger Highfield's book Can Reindeer Fly? (Metro, £12.99)



IN THE film Armie Hall, when Woody Allen rejects the chance to "get mellow" with laid-back rock star Paul Simon, there is a certain irony, since there is far more that unites

the two artists than divides them. Both grew up in the New York suburbs in similar lower middleclass Jewish families just after the Second World War. They both have stuck somewhat spikily to their personal vision despite critical brickbats, and both can be credited with bringing a touch of Greenwich Village coffee-house literacy to art forms that were previously the province of the emotions rather than the intellect.

While Woody was making standup comedy relevant to college kids, spiritually - from New York's bo-

with his references to Adlai Stevenson and Stanley Kowalski, Paul Simon was rescuing pop music from the leather jacket and inviting in duffel-coated grammar school types with songs that wore their literacy on their sleeve, and were therefore roundly criticised for being overly melodramatic and pretentious.

Sure, those early songs were a little pretentious, but that's what we liked about them. "Fog's rollin' in off the East River bank/ Like a shroud it covers Bleeker Street... A poet reads his crooked rhyme/ Holy, holy is his sacrament/ Thirty dollars pays your rent/ On Bleeker Street". To those of us growing up several thousand miles away – literally and

ACCIDENTAL HEROES OF THE **20TH CENTURY**

21: PAUL SIMON, SONGWRITER

Here was pop music we could relate to - a thrilling fusion of Elvis Presley and T S Eliot.

"The Sound of Silence", for instance. Simon's first hit, contains lines - "In restless dreams I walked alone/ Narrow streets of cobblestone/ 'Neath the halo of a street lamp/ I turned my collar to the cold and damp" - that could almost have

hemia, lyrics like this transported us. come from "The Love Song of J Alfred Prufrock". Not that Simon was in any way sniffy about the more plebeian side of rock'n'roll. From the very beginning. New York's street music - doowop and gospel - found its way into his songs. He paid tribute to a long-

forgotten star of doo wop in the track

"The Late Great Johnny Ace", and

Child Reunion" and "Me And Julio Down By The Schoolyard".

His borrowings led to accusations of musical colonialism, repeated later when he collaborated on the Graceland album with African musicians like Youssou N'Dour and Ladysmith Black Mambazo. But that takes political correctness to ridiculous extremes.

Simon was actually rather ahead of his time in referring to other people's music in his work. These days using samples of old records to create new ones is accepted practice.

In Paul Simon's case, though, it that led him to incorporate doo wop was the first white performer to and other primarily black rhythms musical avenues.

make reggae records: "Mother And into his music. He truly loves the pop music with which he grew up, witness his latest project, a musical called The Capeman, the story of a disturbed Puerto Rican teenager who killed two others in a gang fight in New York in 1959. This allows Simon to write songs in the style of the time.

Simon works slowly - and even occasionally has to revive his famously stormy relationship with Art Garfunkel to finance his projects - but it is nearly always worth the wait. Unlike Bob Dylan, who ran out of steam years ago, Paul Simon is still experimenting after 40 years in was not the quest for the fast buck the business, and still leading now grown-up college kids down new

The country's fastest-growing religion and one of our biggest landowners, the Mormon church is building a second spiritual home in Norfolk and Suffolk. By Emma Cook

urrounded by an expanse of bleak, fields, generation Mornon and local briefly stopped his of land before us. He sweeps his hand from one end of the relentlessly flat East Anglian landscape to the other "We go right up to those plane trees over there and down as far as those fields the other side." Everything we can see, then. "Well, it's good value for money round here. We love it - it's the best farmland in the country," enthuses Clive, revving up the Land-Rover and heading back for early-morning prayer at farm headquarters.

Welcome to Manor Farm, 15 minutes from Huntingdon, and an area that's rapidly resembling the Mormon's second Utah. Their chapels crop up around here more frequently than Tesco superstores or look uncannily similar, assuming the same post-modern, toytown style. Like McDonald's, they seem to want to open as many branches as possible without people really noticing what's inside, hence the benign, jolly-looking, red brick and

In one of these jolly-looking buildbusiness suite. There are some flip charts and an impressive-looking mission statement pinned on the wall, just next to a picture of Jesus. Typed out in big bold letters, it says: "Our business is farmland. Profit motivated: No Excuses, Managed for profits. Increased productivity. For investment; for strategic and welfare resource, world-wide based."

Marie is dressed smartly in navy and cream, and her business colleagues all wear suits. Clive manages to look smartest of all, in a crisp white shirt and tweed jacket. It could be a Marks & Spencer's personnel meeting until Marie starts reading: "Our Father, we are grateful that we are here in this area. We especially pray for farmworkers and hope that they work with machines and chemicals in safety..." One or two of them nod reverently.

heads lowered and hands clasped. The Mormons own some 14,000 acres in Britain, making them one of Britain's biggest landowners. along with the Queen and Railtrack. But they've chosen the fertile farmland of Norfolk and Suffolk to really make their spiritual home outthree years, with the least fuss or publicity, they've been buying up farms throughout the area. In a close quisitions. They already have their critics - political and religious.



McDonald's drive-ins. They even The Mormons are covert about their financial dealings in the farmlands of East Anglia, but blatant about their religious intentions - they want to convert the local population

How the Mormons brought In one of these julty-looking buildings on Manor Farm, prayer has just begin. It's 8.30am and Marie, one of Clive's administrators, leads the service. They gather around the boardroom table in a sparse-looking business guite. There are service the property of the service with the boardroom table in a sparse-looking business guite. There are service the sparse-looking business guite. There are service the service with the property of the service guite. There are service to the sparse-looking business guite. The service guite to the sparse-looking business guite. The service guite to the sparse-looking business guite to the sparse-looking business guite. The service to the sparse-looking business guite to the sparse-looking guite guite to the sparse-looking guite guite guite gu

claimed that as one of the biggest landowners in the area, the Mormon church is also one of the biggest beneficiaries of the EU farming subsidy - around £1m. There are rumours, which the Mormons vehemently deny, that 10 per cent of their profits go straight back to the church in Utah. This news didn't go down too well in some quarters. Bill Cash, the Conservative Eurosceptic, described it as "regrettable". Tony Juniper, the Friends of the Earth director, fulminated about farming techniques, telling one paper: "Brussels is paying a million pounds to a foreign-owned multinational to squirt chemicals over what's left of our countryside and wildlife."

Rather than lying low after so much controversy, the Mormons have raised their head above the parapet with a national advertising campaign in the Daily Mail and the Evening Standard. "It's a sophisticated operation," says their spokesman, Bryan Grant, "We're sending off literature and a free video side Salt Lake City. Over the last to 40,000 homes. We're just putting our toe in the water. We'll possibly come back and try television."

In East Anglia, though, it may farming community not known for take more than a free video to put its openness to strangers, you can a gloss on Mormon operations. see why they wouldn't want to shout Some of the local farmers want to about their recent and rapid land ac- know why their lucrative land is passing into strange hands; residents are beginning to notice a

A few weeks ago, the *Daily Moil* marked increase in unusual young aimed that as one of the biggest men dressed in black suits with American accents, standing outside Tesco and trying to collar them to talk about "God's intention for mankind". They don't exactly blend in with the locals. Reverend Walter King, team rector in the rural dean of Huntingdon, recalls: "Once, a of the church while I was giving a service - it was all a bit spooky." He also worries about the young men in dark suits. "You see them walking down the high street and they stick out a mile. They're from another planet and they'll stay there. The sad thing is that they seem very detached.

Still it is essential that the Mormons, or the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, as they prefer to be known, do integrate with their East Anglian neighbours. However covert their financial activities may be, their religious motivations are anything but. The Mormons' raison d'être is to convert the non-believers, and the real riches they have their eye on in East Anglia, above and beyond the land, is the sheer volume of potential converts.

An unhelievably exciting prospect for Elder Marchant and Elder Tuft, 20-year-old Nathan and 19-year-old Jason respectively. Both are on the streets knocking on people's doors, 12 hours a day, five days a week.

cramped flat in Huntingdon to study the Bible and do whatever else Mormons do to relax.

lone lookalike in a Tarantino suit, has never tasted alcohol (caffeine is also prohibited), smoked or dated girls. "I don't fool around with that stuff. It's far too distracting," he few of them came and sat in the back laughs. Like all Mormons, he believes in Armageddon and is encouraged to keep food reserves for a year at least. The Mormons appear to spend a lot of time hoarding food - maybe this explains why their churches look like Tescos. Elder Marchant may be well-prepared, but he still lives in fear of Judgement Day. "Yes, I am scared." he laughs. "And I do worry for others." Thus, his desire to convert the non-believers before the big day.

Watching the two of them in action is a daunting sight - one that could easily put you off ever answering your door again. Perhaps it is their fanatical enthusiasm; the way Elder Marchant desperately chatches his copy of the Bible (with certain pages highlighted) while standing a little too close to some poor victim who has just opened the door. Maybe it is the unappealing prospect of his offer - "Could we just step inside and watch a six-minute video of the Nativity with you so we They return each evening to a can talk about the birth of Christ?" growing quickly because they're the Mormon faith is happy to take

whenever that may be. "It could be

any time," he says vaguely.

that if they have 60 seconds to Elder Marchant, a Sylvester Staltempt a stranger, this particular appeal is unlikely to do the trick. Exactly how they present their message, and who to, isn't under consideration. There is no sense of refining their style or their target group. They will rant at anyone in their path: impatient neighbours who slam doors in their faces; va-

grants; clearly uninterested teenage

girls; a stray dog - well, almost.

Haif an hour of door-knocking with these two and you feel impelled to warn residents in advance shout through their letterboxes and tell them what's about to land on their doorstep. Yet the locals seem impressively well-prepared – "Sorry, love. We don't have a video recorder." "No, sorry, I'm converted to another faith" - and so on. Marchant and Tuft remain dizzyingly enthusiastic, their fanaticism undented. "I've converted three this year and I could do better," he admits. "It's better in South America - they do three a week. It's on fire out there. But rejection is the spice of life."

They do seem curiously untouched by other people's reactions. "They smile and speak a lot, but I don't think they really listen to what you say," says Reverend King rather gloomily. "I suppose they're

regarded by any recognisable Christian faith.' These people also have such an

insatiable appetite to convert, they readers, minus the affluent lifestyles don't limit themselves to living nonbelievers either. One quirk of their they placed their recent press ads. faith is to baptise posthumously consequently, they have the largest genealogical database in the world. A few years ago, reporters discovered that church leaders removed the names of 380,000 Jewish Holocaust victims from their list of the posthumously baptised after protests from Jewish groups.

That's barely a blip for the fastestgrowing religion in Britain. According to spokesman Bryan Grant, the Mormons create a new congregation every two weeks, and build a new chapel every month. In the mid-Sixties, he says, there were 6,500 British members. Now, there are nearly 190,000, their average age between 18 and 35. "Place that against a backcloth of declining church figures with a much more geriatric age profile, and it proves we must be doing something right."

Finance and efficient organisation may play their part, but the real reason for their success, which they're not all that keen to stress, is the less than radical nature of their values. In a culture where New Labour likes to dominate the moral high ground,

-delivered in a booming American terribly energetic. Saying that, that one step further; a great deal drawl. Somebody should tell them they're marginal and certainly not further than, say, the Church of England. In many ways, it is a religion that builds on the value system of Middle England's Daily Mail - it is no surprise that that is where

> Scratch the surface of their spokespeople and it doesn't take long for the reactionary responses to surface. "We put so much of our money into welfare operations. We've given a hundred million to aid in Third World countries." Before adding: "We won't help anybody who won't help themselves. We've got no sympathy for someone who sits and wallows in self-pity." Nor have they got time for homosexuality: "It's sinful." Abortion: "A sinful and revolting practice." Drug addicts: "Some people need to be locked in a room to do cold turkey until you can reason with them Single mothers are none too popular, either

The more Grant allows his views to flow freely, the more the Mormons begin to sound like a political machine operating with militarystyle precision. It's not an original observation, according to Grant, "Do you know what Tolstoy once said about us? - The two most organised institutions are the Prussian army and the Mormon church.' And where's the Prussian army now, I'd

Who needs sex when you can go shopping?

make everyone else feel like

to a climax in the changing

room, where harsh lighting and

egomaniacal to profound

paroxysms of self-loathing. And

it gets worse - "Above and be-

yond putting one's pale, pustu-

lar and podgy physique on

painful display," adds Professor

Brown, "consumer goods

themselves can castrate, frus-

trate or emasculate the shop-

For men buying certain cat-

Brown says.

Shirley Valentine who first compared sex to shopping - seeing both as overrated, involving an awful lot of pushing and shoving and producing very little in the end.

According to a new book, she was right. Sex and supermarkets are inextricably linked. says Stephen Brown, professor of retailing at the University of Ulster and one of the authors of Romancing the Market. Both activities are apparently fraught Frustration, disappointment and regret are just as common as ecstasy, bliss and satisfaction - both in bed and on the high street.

The similarities between the two activities come down to



attitudes, he says. "Men, to put it bluntly, adopt a whambam, thank-you-ma'am approach to shopping. They know what they want, they expect to get it and they are in and out as quickly as possible." Women, on the other hand, engage in an impossible search for the retailing equivalent of Mr Right This involves carefully examining what's on offer before settling for their preferred choice, which is usually the least worst option. "As far as men are con-

cerned," says Professor Brown, "women take far too long. And as far as women are concerned, men don't take enough time to do it properly."

He says that women are prone to "occasional wild, reckless, impulsive, impassioned flings with products that make then go weak at the knees and which may never be unwrapped or worn". Meanwhile men's "love 'em and leave 'em" approach only alters when they encounter something that compact discs, computer games or books.

The difference in shopping style between the sexes means that it is "far from being a form of foreplay (but) ... fraught with danger

A study of undergraduate students found that many went shopping as an opportunity to ogle members of the opposite sex", and also found shopping malls a less pressurised place to meet people than the traditional party, pub or disco.

"Certainly many women seem to take the opportunity to get dressed up or try to look their best when they go shopping, just in case they meet the man of their dreams," says Professor Brown.

ping experience." Yet although the exotic potential is great, it can also prove deeply unsatisfying. Acegories of goods with sexual or cording to the research, shopnarcissistic connotations, such ping focuses on one's fear of as moisturisers and toiletries, physical imperfections and shopping can prove excruciatwhether one can match up. ingly embarrassing, though not Unfortunately, there's usually as mortifying as standing is published by Routledge someone much better looking, outside female changing rooms

was Willy Russell's men and women's different means a lot to them - such as much better dressed and (which are unfailingly situated financially, physically or matri- in the lingerie section) while monially better off than ourtheir partners wrestle and ruminate inside. selves just ahead of us in the queue. "These beautiful people

"Shopping, like sex, is often far from satisfactory," Profesa fat, frumpy failure by invidisor Brown concludes, saying ous comparison." Professor that it is both physically frustrating when imperfections are exposed in changing rooms but also metaphorically frustrat-Sudden identity crises come ing on account of all that unrewall-to-wall mirrors contrive quited love for must-haveto condemn all but the most can't-have merchandise.

"Anguish, bitterness, betrayal, pain, remorse, regret, despair, self-abasement - in fact all the symptoms of heartache - are on agonising display," he says. Sounds suspiciously like a particularly neurotic episode of Ally McBeal Expect the sex 'n' shopping episode on a screen near you very soon.

GLENDA COOPER Romancing the Market', edited by Stephen Brown, Anne

Marie Dohertu and Bill Clarke.



Consumer goods, like sex, can lead to beartache or bliss

André Dewavrin

PT WAS good fortune that brought Captain André Dewayrin to St Stephen's House on the Victoria Embankment in June 1940, He had been temporarily stationed in Trentham Park and had heard vague talk of a French general who refused to accept the French armistice with Germany and who had announced his intention to carry on the war in the name of Free France. Once he had more precise information Dewayrin set off immediately for St Stephen's House and after getting lost several times presented himself to General de Gaulle.

De Gaulle interviewed him with a cold formality. Presumably he already knew quite a lot about this 29-year-old officer of the regular army, who had studied at the Ecole Polytechnique, lectured on fortifications at the military college of Saint Cyr before 1939, and who had served as an engineer in the ill-fated expedition to Norway where he had taken part in the first battle of Narvik. Once he learned that Dewayrin spoke English easily, he appointed him one of his staff officers.

The first interview did not need to be "glacial" as Dewavrin later described it. He had not come emptyhanded. In spite of orders to the contrary he had succeeded in bringing back from Norway a number of French tanks and vehicles which he had deposited in the Southampton docks. These were, as he proudly wrote in his memoirs (2e Bureau, Londres and 10 Duke Street, Londres, both 1947, and Missions Secretes, 1951), almost the whole of the material then available to "Fighting France" in its earliest days.

In the summer of 1940 it was clear that the Germans were establishing powerful occupation forces in France, especially along the Channel coast. It was therefore essential that both the British and the leaders of Free France should be informed about what was happening. Undercover agents needed to be sent to France and establish centres of information and to communicate with London. In July the British created the Special Operations Executive (SOE) under the leadership of Maurice Buckmaster. De Gaulle selected Dewavrin to set up a similar organisation, which came to be called the Bureau Central de Ren-

seignements et d'Action (BCRA). He quickly gathered around him some 60 men who, he thought, filled the requirements necessary for the dangerous tasks. British experts, Sir Claude Dansey and Commander Kenneth Cohen of the Royal Navy, directed their training. Dewayrin, whilst encouraging their sense of adventure, emphasised the realities of their tasks. "Renseignements" meant spying. "Action" meant sabotage.

Just as the conspirators surrounding the Duc de Guise in 16thcentury France concealed their identities by adopting the names of dif-

With some invaluable assistants he succeeded in establishing a whole series of implantations in France that were centres of information and that could become focal points for future action and sabotage. But, apart from the inevitable difficulty of knowing who could be trusted, there was the discovery of existing groups, often amongst regular army units, that were anti-German and ready to fight against the Germans, but which were also opposed to de Gaulle and loyal to Pétain. When men of the British SOE countered

Relations between the SOE and the BCRA were very complicated. At the top, although Passy and Buck-

master had their difficult moments.

when they discussed matters to-

gether as they frequently did - since

their offices were close to each

other - they usually agreed. But Passy needed British help since he

was always short of manpower (al-

though he recruited more helpers he

never had more than 400) and re-

quired considerable assistance in a

multitude of ways. Many British

agents, like the British government

itself, did not think that bringing de

Gaulle to power in France was one

of their war aims. There was intense

Sometimes this suspicion was

political. There was concern,

amongst both the French and the

British, that Passy authorised im-

portant missions to men who had

been members of the pre-war Fas-

cist organisation known as La

Cagoule. It was said that Passy

suspicion of the Free French.

Just as the conspirators surrounding the Duc de Guise in 16th-century France adopted the names of different châteaux, so Dewavrin's men adopted cover-names from the Paris métro

ferent chateaux, so Dewayrin's men adopted cover-names taken from the Paris métro. Dewavrin called himself Passy and afterwards was universally known as Colonel Passy.

He had the reputation of being single-minded and ruthless, never forgiving those who criticised him or let him down. Those who met him were struck by his baby face and misleadingly easy smile. Dressed in a dark suit, wearing a bowler hat and carrying an umbrella, he sometimes appeared too English to be true.

But whereas de Gaulle would listen in silence to what some Frenchman, newly arrived in England, had to say about France, Passy would interrupt them, suggest things, ask them to repeat themselves. He was always an inquisitor and most people who met him during these years remembered his piercing blue eyes, a sign of his

whether it was true; some resistance leaders in France refused to have anything to do with Passy, and the rumour was to follow him after the war. But he constantly denied it. On 25 October 1941 Jean Moulin came to London and met General de Gaulle. Much was learned about the state of the Resistance in France and much was planned to unite the dif-

ferent movements under the control of Jean Moulin and the authority of such groups, they did not experience de Gaulle. After the meeting Passy and Moulin attended a special parathe same embarrassment. chute class and they became friends.

The important moment in the history of the unification of the resistance movements occurred in the early months of 1943. In February Passy joined up with the left-wing Pierre Brossolette, sometimes presented as the real hero of the Resistance, in northern France. Accompanied by Flight-Lieutenant F.F.E. Yeo-Thomas, in six weeks they made a systematic survey of the situation and made Paris the capital of the Resistance.

group. This was so insistently said

that General de Gaulle summoned

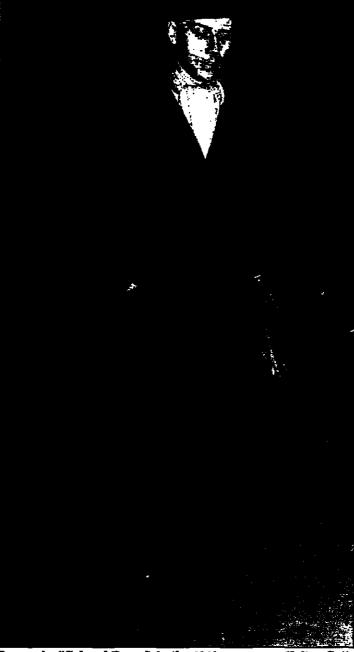
Passy and asked him directly

Once the Liberation of France began Passy turned to combat. In August 1944 he parachuted to Brittany, near to Guincamp, and joined the Breton resistance. They captured the important part of Paimpol and took many German prisoners.

In 1945 with one job ended, de Gaulle expressed his admiration for Dewayrin (who in England had been awarded the DSO and MC) by putting him in charge of intelligence, in the Ministry of Defence. His position there became insecure once de Gaulle resigned in 1946, and he left the post.

But de Gaulle's successor listened readily to the story that he had provided a considerable amount of money for the launching of the newspaper France-Soir. For a time Dewayrin was imprisoned, accused of having misused office funds that had been destined for the Resistance. But he was released and nothing was ever proved.

From then he interested himself himself had been a member of this in business, particularly in the



Dewayrin ('Colonel Passy') in the 1940s

quarrel with the eminent British his-

torian M.R.D. Foot (who had had a

Banque Worms. He was involved in François Mitterrand as a resistance many controversies over events leader and urged the French to from 1940 to 1945, including a lively vote for him in 1981.

DOUGLAS JOHNSON

distinguished military career in André Lucien Charles Dewavrin the services concerned). Dewayrin (Colonel Passy), soldier and resisdid not agree with Foot's history of tance fighter: born Paris 9 June 1911; twice married (two sons, André Dewayrin also shocked one daughter); died Paris 20 many Gaulfists when he praised

Brian Lewis

BRIAN LEWIS, one of the most versatile performers in English League football throughout the decade and a half from 1960, played an integral part in an extraordinary feat of giant-killing which astounded the sporting world.

In February 1971, the effervescent utility man with the distinctive bowlegged gait was plying his trade on the right flank of humble Colchester United's attack when the Layer Road minnows played host to Don Revie's formidable Leeds United in the fifth round of the FA Cup. Though they were destined to finish the season trophyless, Leeds were, by common consent, the finest team in the land.

Meanwhile Colchester - dubbed "Grandad's Army" due to the preponderance of veterans in their ranks - were about midway in the Fourth Division. So one-sided did the contest appear that even the ritual pre-match tub-thumping about Davids overcoming Goliaths appeared more spurious than usual.

Cue sensation, with Lewis at its heart. Early in proceedings he laid on a goal for former England centreforward Ray Crawford, then he continued to beaver inspirationally as Crawford added a second, and capped his contribution by delivering a sumptuous lob from which Dave Simmons gave the underdogs a 3-0 advantage. The Elland Road aristocrats clawed back to 3-2 but no further, Lewis, Crawford and company had achieved a soccer miracle.

Not that Lewis needed a one-off glory-day to cement his stature in the game. That was already evident from a career which had taken in Crystal Palace, whom he had served in the League's lower reaches; Second Division Portsmouth, his dearest footballing love; Coventry City, for whom he was bought by Jimmy Hill and whom he helped to clinch the Second Division title in 1967; Luton Town (Third Division) and Oxford United (Second Division). Finally, after leaving Colchester, he returned to Pompey for an enterprising Indian summer.

Lewis occupied every outfield position, but was at his best as an attacking right-half who packed a savage shot, whose sweeping crossfield passes were a trademark, and who was wirily resilient in the tackle. A lovable scamp both on and off the pitch, he was feted by his supporters, especially at Portsmouth, for cheeky dribbles which lured opponents into rash tackles, thus securing free-kicks in menacing situations. Though his only taste of England's top flight was for one term in and out of the Coventry team, he appeared to have the requisite ability for that level.

In 1975 Lewis entered non-League the furniture trade while retaining his contact with the game as a successful youth coach. Passionate about his football - he named his only son after Duncan Edwards, the Manchester United prodigy who perished in the Munich air disaster – Brian Lewis retained his enthusiasm until the end, and was laid to rest wearing the shirt of his beloved Pompey.

for Crystal Palace 1960-63, Portsmouth 1963-67, Coventry City 1967-68, Luton Town 1968-70, Oxford United 1970, Colchester United 1970-72, Portsmouth 1972-75; married (one son: marriage dissolved); died Bournemouth, Dorset 14 December 1998.

Elaine Wilkie

IF HEALTH visitors broke the mould of nurse education by moving into universities, as Elaine Wilkie, the first director of the Council for the Education and Training of Health dered. it was s set them in the direction to do it. Wilkie determined to get health

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asks to the same

visitor training out of the hands of medical officers, who were their employers. And she was emphatic that health visitors should first train first as nurses. She was a pioneering educationalist while herself suffering the continuing pain of rheumatoid arthritis and for much of the time also being a carer for her invalid mother. Elaine Wilkie was born in Edin-

burgh in 1915 and went to George Watson's Ladies College. When she was 12 her father, a grain broker, died, leaving the family in straitened circumstances. With a nursing background on her mother's side, Wilkie chose to train as a nurse and to do so at King's College Hospital in from 1941 to 1947 in Caterham, Sur-London, rather than in Edinburgh. rey, where the large Guards depot the Department of Social and Pre-



(Her two much older brothers became surgeons.)

After qualifying as a state registered nurse she trained as a midwife. She then took a health visitor's course at the Royal Sanitary Institute (later the Royal Society of Medicine). She served as a health visitor

The diploma course in community health nursing which she launched led to the first UK degree in nursing

during the Second World War created social problems.

She left to run the health visitors' course at the Royal College of Nursing. While a full-time tutor, she took a BA in psychology at Birkbeck College, London. Always with a wide view of nurse education, in 1959 she was appointed organising tutor at

ventive Medicine, Manchester Uni-Brockington. The diploma course in community health nursing - leading to a qualification as state regiswhich she launched, developed into the first UK degree in nursing.

In her efforts to reshape the training of health visitors and protect their status. Wilkie had to battle with medical officers of health, with the Royal Sanitary Institute, and with the emerging profession of social workers. The last she experienced in her next posts - in 1962 as chief professional adviser to the new Council for the Training of Health Visitors, and when in 1971 this became the Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors, as its director.

"There had always been a shadowy area of responsibility in the work of health visitors and social workers and a possible area of overlap," she wrote. "Over the years this has

been the cause of debate and, on ocversity, under Professor Fraser casion, dispute concerning their respective roles," It surfaced when the Social Work Council was set up in parallel with that for the education

> Wilkie wrote a history of the latter in 1979. Though it bore all the marks of an official history, it hinted, mainly between the lines, at the difficulties she faced. "If you want style, madam, you must pay for it" is a shop assistant's remark which she uses to head one chapter.

> There were no central funds for the council. In the early days Wilkie maintained a personal contact with the new training schools but soon she found the administrative content of her work precluded this and certainly any participation in any research, to which as an academic, she was inclined, was impossible. She was frustrated that it took 12 years for action on the 1956 Jameson report on health visiting. She wrote another book in 1984, Singular Anomaly: A Case

Study of the Council for the Education and Training of Health Visitors. In 1975 Wilkie retired. She was appointed OBE, the Royal College of

Nursing elected her a Fellow, she University - and the Briggs report on nursing made a recommendation undermining what she had sought to achieve. It said that health visitors could be trained in just six months. Elaine Wilkie's hobby was music,

including singing in church choirs, Church of England when in London, Church of Scotland when in Edinburgh. She was a committed Christian. All her life she retained her Scottish brogue and her love for the country she left to pursue her career. Brian Lewis, footballer; born Wokand on retirement she went back to | ing, Surrey 26 January 1943; played live in Edinburgh. LAURENCE DOPSON

Elizabeth Elaine Wilkie, nurse and educationalist: born Edinburgh 23 August 1915; OBE 1975; died Edinburgh 14 December 1998.

GAZETTE

BIRTHDAYS

TODAY: Mr David Bailey, photographer, 61; Mr Nicholas Baring, chairman, Commercial Union, 65; Sir Richard Bayliss, former Physician to the Queen, 82: Mr Christopher Campbell, chairman, British Shipbuilders, 63; Admiral William J. Crowe, former US ambassador, 74; The Duke of Devonshire, former Chancellor of Manchester University, 79; Professor Sir Kingsley Dunham, former Director, Institute of Geological Sciences, 89; Mr David Graveney, cricketer, 45; Mr Walter Harrison, former MP, 78; Mr Algernon Heber-Percy. Lord-Lieutenant for Shropshire, 55; Sir Michael Hirst, former MP, 53; Mr Doug McAvoy, trade unionist, 60; Mr Piers Merchant MP, 48, Sir Bruce Pattullo. Governor, the Bank of Scot-

land, 61; Sir Charles Reece, former research and technology director, ICI, 72; Mr Edmund de Rothschild, director, N.M. Rothschild and Sons, 83; Air Marshal Sir Ernest Sidey, 86; Professor John Thomas, chemist, 73; Sir Keith Thomas, president, Corpus Christi College, Oxford, 66; Dame Rachel Waterhouse, former chairman, Consumers' Association, 76; Sir-Andrew Wood, ambassador to the Russian Federation, 58; The Right Rev Kenneth Woollcombe, Assistant Bishop,

TOMORROW: Brigadier Sir John Anstey, former President, National Savings Committee, 92; Mr David Atherton, music director, Hong Kong Philharmonic Orchestra, 55; Mr John Bamborough, former Principal, Linacre College, Oxford, 78;

Sir Robin Butler, former Secretary of the Cabinet. 61; Mr Fran Cotton, former rugby international, 51; Sir Alastair Forbes, former judge, 91; Mr Mel Gibson, actor, 43; Sir Richard Hanbury-Tenison, Lord-Lieutenant of Gwent, 74; Sir Roy Harding, educationist, 75; Lord Hughes of Woodside, former MP, 67; Mr John Paul Jones, rock musician and producer, 53; Admiral Sir Michael Layard, former Second Sea Lord, 63; Miss Anya Linden (Lady Sainsbury of Preston Candover), former ballerina, 66; Sir George Martin, chairman, AIR group, 72; Mr Eric Martlew MP, 50: Sir Carol Mather, former MP, 80: Mr Matthew Taylor MP, 36; Mr John Thaw, actor, 57; Mr David Vine, BBC sports commentator, 63.

Mr Michael Barratt, broad-

caster, 71; Mr Victor Borge,

musician and comedian, 90;

Guards, 11am; 1st Battalion Welsh Guards mounts the Queen's Guard, CHANGING OF THE GUARD at Buckingham Palace, 1130am, band provided by the Irish Guards. TODAY: The Household Cavalry founted Regiment mounts the bueen's Life Guard at Horse

alry Mounted Regiment mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guards, 10am; 1st Battalion Welsh Guards mounts the Queen's Guard,

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From a salt desert to a Californian world

IN A year's time, the opening to this piece will write itself: "I told you so." The world will not have ended. This is of course an entirely safe bet to make, since, if I lose, who is to collect? But there are other possibly more important things to learn from an outbreak of millennial fever. Perhaps the most important is that very little of it will be religious in the sense that

"religious" has been understood for

the last thousand years. In Rome, starting on Christmas Eve, the Pope will inaugurate the greatest continuous pilgrimage the world has ever seen. At least 25 million people will descend on the city over the following year, quite likely the figure will be closer to 35 million. Fif-

teen new churches are being built in the suburbs. It looks as if Christendom is in great shape. Certainly, the experience of reading the Pope's mediations on the Jubilee, as he calls the Millennium in his encyclical Tertio Millennio Adveniente, is enough to show that there still are Christian philosophers and in-

tellectuals around who should be taken seriously, despite appearances to the contrary in Britain. Yet I still have a sense that this triumph may be illusory: that the last millennium found the Church on a flood tide, and this finds the same Church on an ebb. The splendours of Roman Christianity, which are in large parts

now largely architectural. The buildings remain, but the peo-

those of European Christendom, are

FAITH & REASON

ANDREW BROWN

Ideas of spirituality have moved a long way since the last millennium. In the future, organised religion may well be unable to satisfy its needs

ber of pilgrims coming to Rome has tripled every time since 1950. But no one could argue that this is a development largely driven by spiritual causes. The gigantic and unprecedented tide of pilgrims into Rome is a product of cheap air travel and mass tourism, not of the fervour of their belief.

This has not been accompanied by any great increase in rationality or sophistication. Quite possibly the collapse of traditional religion has not increased even those measures of human happiness which an atheist would recognise. It certainly doesn't seem to me to have led to any greater respect for the truth. And it is possible to draw some huge and gloomy conclusions from the process, about how the world will necessarily get worse as a result.

Most of the atrocities of this century ple are gone or going fast. There is a were committed by avowed atheists or Jubilee every 25 years, and the num- anti-Christians, in Russia as in Nazi

course, regard themselves as fighting for Christian civilisation, even against each other. But on balance, any fairminded observer would conclude that atheists have brought more misery to the planet than the devout.

It's easy to follow that argument in a direction that says that without religion we have no hope. Many elegaic conservatives, from Matthew Arnold to Roger Scruton, have concluded just this without being exactly Christian themselves. I hope they're wrong for a couple of reasons. The first is that they are in essence

claiming that our only hope is to believe something repugnant to reason. This seems to me to lose the most noble legacy of Christianity: the assertion that humanity and truth are despite all the evidence compatible. It is also open to the elegant mockery of Christians like Libby Purves, who remarked of Scruton's pessimism that he was the first man to argue that we should throw out the baby and keep the

The second reason is that I don't think people will happily and consciously believe things they know to be false. We're just not built that way. It may not be nobility of character. It may simply be that we suspect the truth will give us an edge in dealing with each other. But in any case, the idea that we should believe things because they are good for use doesn't work outside Alcoholics Anonymous, which is extremely vague about what exactly these beliefs should be.

I think it's more interesting to twist

Germany. The Serbs and Croats, of the elegaic conservative argument through 90 degrees. Religions, as we know them, are really modelled on Christendom. But Christendom does not describe a mode of thought or even a set of beliefs, so much as a way of understanding and arranging society. It fulfilled a great many lasting human needs that have no obvious organisational connection to spirituality.

This disconnection became apparent first intellectually when people learnt that you could best discover all sorts of truths, philosophical, historical and scientific, without reference to religious authority. In this century it has become obvious socially, as more and more of the special functions of religion are taken over by the welfare state, and to some extent by the mass media.

The one irreplaceable function which seems to remain to them is to link an awareness of the transcendent into some kind of workable moral code. So we tend to think that this must be the essence of religion. But it's not clear that religions, considered as social arrangements, can have an essence at all.

If our ideas of religion descend from the Old Testament world of the tribe in a salt and bitter desert, clinging mostly to God and always to each other, they may not survive at all their inversion into a Californian world of huge material comfort and no real social bonds at all. The lasting human needs that give rise to what we now call religious belief will remain, but there's no reason to suppose that religions themselves will.

Here comes the crazy man

Screamin' Jay Hawkins, alive and well and holed up in a chic Paris suburb. Now that's voodoo. By Phillip Sweeney

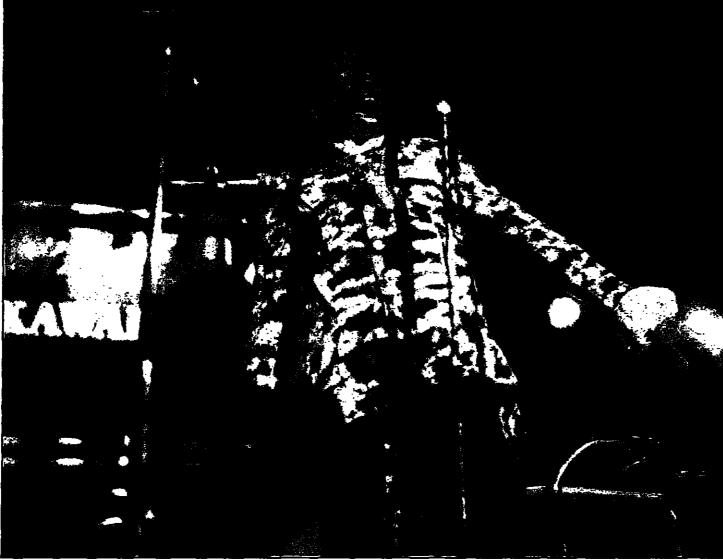
Paris, by the Bois de Bolougne, the Seine contains a thin strip of expensive real estate, the Ile de la Jatte. Famously painted by Seurat last century, the island today harbours big white blocks of flats, the offices of Yves Saint Laurent, and a riverside supper club: the Maxwell Cafe, formerly known as the Quai du Blues. Through the open stage door comes the sound of a mellifluous but irritated Ohio baritone. "That ain't mah shit. That's Vacher's shit. Where's mah shit?" And an auswering voice, Parisian and perplexed: "Er. je ne sais pas. mais voici le popier à cul musique." Inside, Screamin' Jay Hawkins, in

bronze silk suit and snakeskin boots. is rooting around in a crated toilet bowl, watched by a workman who holds out placatingly a roll of toilet paper printed with staves of music. We go up to the bar to sit down.

Jay lights a Pall Mall ("a bad habit I picked up during the Korean war") and explains. The toilet is his prop for the song "Constipation Blues".
"After a long, agonisin', almost 15 minutes of that song I reach in and show the audience I did manage to produce somethin" - but the Café's proprietor, Gerard Vacher, has replaced the usual correct plastic piece of excrement with a French joke one, which will not do.

A lanse of standards is something Jay is not about to tolerate, as his French musicians have learnt. "I still get 'em back in the daytime and work 'em hard and they say, 'Oh do we have to?' And I says yeah - you play "Tea for Two', rollerskatin' music, dyin' music, Dixieland jazz... the people gotta be happy with it."

Evidently the people are happy, if the continual full houses of the Paris residency are anything to go by. To much of the world, Screamin' Jay Hawkins is a name from the golden age of rock and roll, author of the glorious single "I Put a Spell On You" in 1956 and subsequently forgotten. The more culturally alert will be aware of Hawkins, now aged almost 70, as a cult-film cameo actor for the likes of Jim Jarmusch. Wayne Wang, Chester Himes and Harvey Keitel. For the inhabitants of Levallois-Perret, a genteel and nondescript suburb across the river from the He de la Jatte, Hawkins has years, buying his Pall Malls at the makes way for coffins, skulls, can-Le Limousin for a soft drink and much more. "I find I can make



'I find I can make people react more quickly if I walk on with a skull and snakes': stagecraft à la Jay Hawkins

a workout for his half-dozen words

Three or four times a month, Jay drives over to the Maxwell Café, where twice a night, a hundred punters sit down to piece de boeuf, sauce roquefort in the red plush interior. On the small stage Screamin' Jay regales them with 90 minutes of howling, snarling, windbreaking, scatological, scat-singing blues vaudeville of his classics, and a host of newly written numbers such as "Pot Luck" ("crocodile bladders and gum... French fried baboon lips... bring on the knees and make all the gals say please... pot luck has been a neighbour for the last six struck!"). Meanwhile the toilet tabac, and popping into the Café nibal outfits, smoke bombs and

on with a skull and snakes... I see smiles on their faces and they're clappin' and sayin' here come the crazy man and I know it's gonna

Canniness runs like a seam through Hawkins' conversation, which is a chat-show hosts' dream, unstoppable, indiscreet, packed with anecdote and, against all the odds, apparently based on truth.

Where did he get the idea for the cannibal nose-bone? In the Philippines, where he lived in the 1960s working US Army nightclubs, marrying his second wife and exercising anthropological curiosity. "You remember the Moro tribe? In World War Two motion pictures the Japan- one and a half Jay was fostered with ese hate to fall into the hands of the

people react more quickly if I walk Moros cos they got these big banshee knives and they dice the Japanese up like little pieces o' carrot. Well, they says to me Jay Hawkins, you strange, you sure you ain't a witch doctor? I says thank you very much, that's a compliment. They says no, we mean you're wicked and evil... you come on stage with skelikons hanging from your ears and fire from your hands. I says this is normal, you gotta have something different to get people payin' to come into a nightclub..."

The Filipino interlude occurs midway through Jalacy Hawkins' life, which began "black, naked and ugly" and one of eight kids, "all bastards", in 1929 in Cleveland. At age a tribe of Blackfoot Indians, rich

ones with houses in the city, who "raised me real good and taught me the value of a dollar". Hawkins joined the Army aged 14, fought in the Pacific, took up boxing and fin-ished the 1940s Middleweight Champion of Alaska.

In the early 1950s he decided to use his dramatic voice and newly acquired piano and saxophone skills. His break came via the patronage of a New York blues singer named Wynonie Harris - "the most stinkin' crooked criminal black man in the whole of show business. He shoulda married Dinah Washington, the only woman like him" - who got Hawkins a residence in the Baby Grand Chub in Harlem. In late 1956 Hawkins recorded for the second time his ballad "I Put a Spell On

In the eye of a storm You", a "pretty version" of which had

flopped earlier. This time the studio

was full of pork chops, greens and

booze, more like a party, and Jay

first applied his demented embell-ishment of vocal effects from jungle

and lavatory. The result was banned

by many radio stations but still

sold a million copies. "Spell" assured

both Jay's position in pop music his-

tory and a steady royalties income,

which he still uses to import for him-

self Campbells soup and razors, and

passes on in hand-outs to any of the "25 to 75" children he's sired who

with an internationally marketable

name. "I joined all the screen guilds

and performing-rights societies and

stuff like that to git in with the right

crowd in different countries." Four

decades of roaming ensued. In 1985

he began visits to the Lionel Hamp-ton room at the Meridien Hotel in

Paris, and thus joined the ranks of

American blues and gospel artists

better known in France than at

home. In 1993, accompanied by

eight trunks of his finest clothes, he

moved permanently to Paris; three

years later he was living in Leval-lois, married to his second French

wife and the father of a new baby.

Improbably, petit bourgeois French

life suits him perfectly. "Marlon

Brando found his paradise on a

South Sea island - I found mine in

Levallois-Per-ray". Last year, Hawkins made a new

record, Last Call, for a French

independent. A very good one,

though he currently denies it, com-

plaining about the addition of organ

to the final edit and the company's

insistence he include a version of "I

Shot the Sheriff". Actually, the track

is great fun, transforming the self-

righteous Rasta narrator of the

Marley version into a rip-snorting

psychopath that the author of

Silence of the Lambs would have

collaborators, Jay can't plan too far

ahead. There's a new Jim Jar-

musch movie about his life, soon to

be released, and an album of oper-

atic arias planned. The Maxwell

Café, says Jay, asked him to extend

his contract but he's keeping his

options open. One thing's for sure,

he wants to die on stage, like the

pianist Eubie Blake. Maybe you'll

be the first person in history to die

on the toilet on stage, I suggest.

"Woooh!" says Screamin' Jay.

Busy falling out, and back in, with

killed, as it were, to create.

"Spell" also endowed Hawkins

still speak to him.

POP DELORES AND SEAN KEANE MOUNT ERRICLE HOTEL LETTERKENNY DONEGAL, EIRE

PT'S SURPRISING to realise that it has only been during the past 15 years or so that the likes of Christy Moore, Paul Brady and Mary Black have established a world market for a brand of easy-listening pop music firmly rooted in the Irish tradition but almost exclusively fuelled with songwriting, home-grown or bought in, in a pre-hat act American country vein. Hard to define more concisely but almost a genre in its own right. Braving the storm-force winds

and risking (successfully) an intermittent electricity supply, Dolores Keane, one of the longest-established stars of the scene, and her vounger brother Sean, one of the fastest rising, were rewarded with a more than healthy turnout and a rapturous reception - from an audience demographic that major labels in Britain would simply never dream of. If the showband era of the Sixties has bequeathed to the world the blue-rinse pap of Daniel O'Donnell and his cronies, it has perhaps redeemed itself in fostering a communality of social experience with live music and a healthy belief that singers and songwriters don't necessarily have to be the same people. In the case of Dolores and Sean, they may never find themselves in the running for a Mercury Music prize but they are quite simply great singers with great songs - and that is a quality that should never be taken for granted or undervalued. Touring for the first time together,

the show took the form of two separate sets from each artist and their regular bands, with a smattering of duets and swapping of personnel - indeed the mercurial and rock-solid Ted Ponsonby deserves a mention in despatches for saving the cost of two rhythm guitarists and seemingly memorising two acts' entire repertoire with consummate cool. For this was no scripted show. Sean, at least, never sings the same set two night's running and that, together with an unusually dynamic band - Ponsonby on rhythm, Michael McGinty on string bass and Robbie Overson powerhousing away on Townshendish lead guitar - adds edge to what will always be a naturally gifted vocal performance.

Some of the duets were more compelling than others, but when the match succeeded, as on Kieran Halpin's strident, dramatic "Like Sister, Like Brother" - allowing Dolores's windswept, husky and declamatory style and Sean's higher. more lonesome tones to make something greater than the sum of the parts - it was a triumph.

Promoting her Greatest Hits Collection, Dolores delivered essentially that with typical good humour. But the reception for Sean's set was extraordinary, and with the appearance of effortless control - an eye of serenity in the midst of his band's storm - he moved the whole show up a gear. Emigration, peace and love gone wrong are themes that dominate Dolores' material but while Sean explores similar paths, he casts a much wider net. Three albums in, he's one of the great Irish discoveries of the Nineties.

COLIN HARPER

THE WEEK IN RADIO

MILLS

several trips away in the course of a vear whether it be for business or holiday or both, A week in the sum-mer, say? Perhaps a short city break

on the continent? A weekend chan-

maybe a skiing holiday to your favourite Alpine resort?

nel trip to stock up on your wine? Or

Every time you go away the insurance

eosts mount up - unless you have on

annual insurance policy. And, if you don't have annual cover then there's

the bother of arranging cover each

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and every time.

IN FRANK Skinner's view, the saxophone break during Bill Haley's "Rock Around the Clock" is far too "white and clinical", sounding like someone stuck in a traffic jam. The tone is nowhere near "dirty" enough for him, and so on Monday night he offered a few juicy alternatives. In the Days Before Rock'n'Roll (Radio 2) was a look through some records made prior to 1955, featuring the sort of music played inside smoky basement clubs where Haley's "canaryyellow jacket and silly kiss-curl' would be a positive bar to entry. In the first of a series of four programmes, Frank showed the influence of blues men on the development of rock and roll as a genre. Always giving the

greatest reverence to the sleaziest sounds, he played Big Mama Thornton's "Hound Dog", Amos Milburn's "Down the Road a Piece", and Jackie Brenston's R&B classic "Rocket 88". According to Sun Records, this

last one, from 1950, was the first ever rock and roll song. Well, maybe so, but there were a lot of other musical innovations flying around at the same time, as Fats Domino, Ike Turner, Roy Brown and Chuck Berry all made their presence felt.

Britain's Lonnie Donegan played a part too, because it was one of his performances that initially inspired Buddy Holly to pick up a guitar. The original "Rock Island Line" was sung by Lead Belly, but it was Lonnie's

skiffle version (recorded in 1954) that got through to the American mainstream and became a massive hit, in spite of his rather dodgy "Gone with the Wind"

vocal tones.

The vocal tones of Ray Galton and Alan Simpson were much easier to place. South London to be exact. In Hancock and Son (Radio 4, Tuesday), Harry Thompson talked to them about their writing partnership, now almost half-a-century old, and in particular, about how Honcock's Half Hour had become the first ever situation comedy.

Apparently they met in a TB sanatorium, where they passed four years testing comic scripts on one another. Perhaps by accident, perhaps not, the

position of the interview microphone made them sound as if they were still there. Simpson actually seemed to be speaking from some kind of waiting room, his voice echoing on bare painted walls and tiled floors, while in the meantime Galton hovered near the doorway. This gave the two of

them a certain aloomess, quite appropriate to their status as writers rather than performers of comedy. Without having to worry about acting ("That was Hancock's job") they could concentrate on getting the

scripts perfect. Between extracts from "The Blood Donor" and "The Radio Ham", we heard how Simpson was "in charge of" the typewriter, editing the ideas they

bounced off each other as Galton paced around the room, occasionally rushing over to make sure nothing of his was being thrown out. The resulting comedy was what you get when two men are shut in a room together for two decades, namely, an obsession with detail. They worked for hours to make sure the syntax was right. "One too many syllables in a line can render it unfurny," explained Alan Simpson. So it was that they rejected "just about an armful" of blood and even "nearly an armful", not satisfied until they finally arrived at "very nearly an armful" which was, of course, more precise. Any aspiring comedy writer would have done well to listen.



MAGNUS

brows wavering, pimping

Mark Ordesky, president of

HurlyBurly's distributor, Fine

Line, called the Christmas

release of HurlyBurly "counter

programming" against more traditional Christmas movie

fare, following the success of

last year's Christmas release,

Jackie Brown. New Yorkers

seemed glad to lose themselves

in these characters who crawl

on the floor like it was still the

early Eighties, accusing each

other of projecting.

young girls to his friends.

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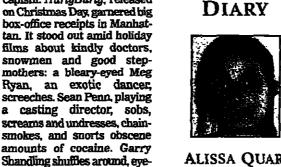
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IN CHOOSING their Christmas film this year, New Yorkers NEW YORK went for a new kind of escapism. HurlyBurly, released



ALISSA QUART

might spend Christmas with hundreds of people - without going to Midnight Mass. (On this year's Christmas Eve, you could catch a show entitled Hasidic New Wave and eat some fake duck.)

HurlyBurly's action is as drug-induced, superficial and unhappy as any fashionable New Year's party. For weeks before the New Year, Manhattanites competed over invitations, then feigned indifference at the events themselves.

This was the audience's With its glimpse into fantasy, the not-so-American life they had chosen, psycholoyesterday's debauchery, Hurlygised and corny and obsessed Burly echoes both Manhatwith power, a life where one tan's invitation-only pre-fête



And I'll cry if I want to...

other Hollywood hotshots toast

"genius" Penn, who is suffering

The \$4m ensemble piece,

for the sins of Tinseltown's

money-mad performers.

Sean Penn and Meg Ryan, the stars of 'HurlyBurly'

frenzy and the blase ennui at along with Pleasantville and Burky's makers claim that it is the actual party. Sean Penn exemplifies both these modes. mistake of confusing show-The object of Hollywood's business unhappiness in desire kvetched in The New particular with human unhap-York Times Magazine profile, piness in general. It's part of calling Hollywood stars mere 1998's larger filmic trend -"performers" and hanging Deep Hollywood. With DH films around them to be sometimes like Saving Private Ryan and The Thin Red Line, stars can't "just excruciating". In the article, Penn is made into say enough how the particular Hollywood's Christ-figure. He director or actor had so much threatens to quit acting, while tacitum "aura". Jack Nicholson and a host of

This year, American entertainment magazines ran stories of film ad campaigns, box office, and studio firings and hirings. instead of the mags' breathless fans notes of yore. While Hurty-

The Truman Show, makes the not a movie about Hollywood per se, Ordesky says: "Hurly-Burly is about what Hollywood can do to the human mind, the soul, and the personality".

If you were part of New York's Elect you wouldn't have to go to the movies to watch the return of 1980s-style decadent parties. You would be at writer Bret Easton Ellis's party, waiting for him to leave his own do, watching his teenage guests cavort and women in short Santa skirts serve drinks. And then, like Sean Penn, after trying to be invited to the party, you would rant against it.

THE BOOKS INTERVIEW

Having some fun with dysfunction

Michel Houellebecq, the mischief-making enfant terrible of new-wave French fiction, talks to Helen Stevenson

efore a Francophone audience at the French Institute, prior to the British publication of his first novel, Michel Houellebecq is appy to speak in English. Partly, ne suspects, this is because he is ored by the sound of the same old nswers in French; partly, because e knows that it is mildly irritating. Ruminative pauses punctuate is speech like clouds. Vision du nonde? he asks, casting around or a prompt. Vision of the world! aps the translator, clashing with a horus of "world view" from the inglish to his left. "Ah, world view," e agrees, smiling slightly. "I am imply expressing my world view." Houellebecq's first novel, Whatver (translated by Paul Hammond, erpent's Tail, £8.99), is a short ook narrated by a Parisian comuter programmer. Its vision of the orld is not a pretty one. The narator and his colleague, Tisserand, our France teaching people to use software. Tisserand is 26 and gin. His frustration contrasts vith the narrator's apparent indiference to sex, acquisition or sucess. Eventually, the narrator offers isserand a knife and suggests he o and kill a couple making out on he beach. "Launch yourself on a areer of murder. Get the hang of it

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guests 1 short , after

n a young nigger!" In some ways, it's nothing new. eople are alienated. The world is Ithy and sour, there is no love any nore, we are all scared, isolated, mely and bitter. We may be ecoomically comfortable - those with sbs in computers, at least - but we re ill-educated, intellectualised in ie 77ong way unfit and unlikely to core. The novel's end-of-the-Eightes France is visibly Americanised. The Americans are completely tupid," Houellebecq says, sounding ke the Roi Soleil. "The intellectu-I level in any single European ountry is higher than in America."

The French title was Extension u domaine de la lutte, expressing louellebecg's view that the sexual ai market, in which you d t to score and survive.

I ask him later if it was called Thatever in English as the result of clerical error - whether someone aid "what shall we call it in Engsh?" and "Oh, whatever!" got slung own in the minutes. His publisher tle, it would almost be an American



novel". Houellebecq laughs acidly. It's not ironic that someone who so despises the consumerism of the late 20th century should have

sold over 500,000 copies of his first two novels. It is part of the critique, and Houellebecq is delighted by evolution of the Sixties had nothing his success. At the same time, he is p do with the creation of commu- currently one of the most reviled ism in the sexual realm. Rather, it men in France, as well as the most ad everything to do with a free sex- feted: the leader of a "new generagaged writers who are depressed, humorous, watch television, and meaning of life. Life has moved on

markets and discothèques. No one not true," he says. "That's not me at

MICHEL HOUELLEBECO, A BIOGRAPHY

grandfather. He studied

agronomy and became a

Michel Houellebecq was born in 1958 in La Réunion. His mother was a "sexually liberated" anaesthetist; his father a mountain guide. He was brought up in the Yonne region of France by his

sits round in cafés discussing the wander in cyber- and porno-space. and has left its meaning, and those They are the first generation of who sought it, far behind. But in a ing and nauseating novel about French writers to represent the recent issue of Granta, Houellebecq physical world as we have known it refutes the claim that what these here for a long time, complete with writers have in common is a concern ays that "with this jacket and this answerphones, computers, superfor action rather than thought. "It's

Nationale. After a divorce and severe depression, he spent time in a psychiatric hospital. In the early Nineties, he all. My novels are all ideas." Whatever isn't really a novel of

programmer at the Assemble

ideas, though. It is a funny, terrifywhat's wrong. The strapline on the English cover says, as if desperately trying to find old bottles for new wine, "L'Etranger for the info age". "Yes," Houellebecq says, "but after all, a justification."

L'Etranger was different. Meursault had no reason to kill the Arab on the beach." And here there is an uncomfortable pause. He is a strangelooking man - a cross between Arthur Scargill and Jasper Carrott. Much has been made in France of his nerdy looks. "Here there is,

published an essay on HP

of poems. His first novel

1995, and Les Particules

Elementaires in 1998.

Extension du domaine de la

lutte (Whatever) appeared in

Lovecraft and two collections

The hostility of the audience at the French Institute seems slightly prefabricated. Many people came here prepared to be hostile to a man who s stuck literary knuckle-dusters into the face of political correctness. In the French newspapers. L'Affaire Houellebecq has claimed almost as many column inches as L'Affaire Lewinsky. Already people felt uncomfortable with aspects of feminism, a taint of racist language that did not seem to be entirely the do some reading. "I prefer reading narrator's own, the feeling of unease to writing," he says, grinning over about this so-called "justification". the front page of a newspaper I

is half sycophantic, half hostile.

glass of house white as we sit in the French Institute café. (He is unfussy about wine and says that, after a few years of work, people get less interested in sex and substitute for it clarets and gastronomie.) Dangerous for whom? Is he about to discourse on the narrow ledge a writer must walk between provocation and responsibility? "For me," he says forlornly. "People were extremely hostile.

Les Particules Elementaires will be published in England next year. It is a brilliant, horrifying, pornographic, very funny, sociological survey of the last 30 years, and a total condemnation of the 1968 generation. Houellebecq claims to have been surprised by the outrage it caused among the 68ers themselves. "I honestly thought they were all dead." he says. He was 10 in 1968.

As a blueprint for happiness in the 21st century, it proposes the creation by cloning of an auto-reproducing species very similar to humans. They would be immortal, not therefore in sexual competition for survival, and free of suffering, envy, cruelty and vanity. It has been read particularly closely for its descriptions of Swedish-style orgies. (The graphic detail lends a certain piquancy to Houellebecq's presence in the flesh.)

There has been far less debate in France over the substance of his views on eugenics than over whether they justified his being banned from a group of intellectuals called Perpendiculaire. Perhaps on its publication in England, the novel will provoke a serious discussion of the issues. Houllebecg's claim that it is simply science fiction is so disingenuous as to be arch.

And yet Les Particules Elementaires - justifiably, one might argue - is now being described as the most important novel of the end of the millennium. "I know the classic objections - but it seems to me that the advantages to be gained from acting to modify the genetic code far outweigh any objections." Pinned down, he can always say it's only fiction; and science fiction at that. Nevertheless, it is a fiction based on his own vision du monde.

new wife. He will rest a bit; maybe But it was his second novel that show him, announcing the bombing created uproar, hence this audience of Iraq. "Reading changes your world view. Writing changes "It is very dangerous," he says of absolutely nothing. Except, of Les Particules Elementaires (Flam- course, when it makes you rich."

Infinite riches from the lost subcontinent

Pankaj Mishra argues that the nuclear bomb-wielding India of today has forgotten the subtle glories of ancient Hindu and Buddhist thought

o's elegant compendium of the German Romantics. Their lassical Indian myths and gends, there occurs one of Goethe, Schopenhauer and 10se sertences that makes ou wonder about the book's te in England: "We are devoes of the distinct and the rticulate, but the infinite sters in our bones."

nd philosophy is obsessed, as at had a good press in ommonsense loving England. idia's classical past in the Ith century had almost no fect on English literature and hilosophy, whereas it was

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enthusiasm was inherited by even Thomas Mann, who based a charming short story, "The Transposed Heads", on an idea drawn from the Upanishads.

Not that German and French ideas of India were always on It probably does. But the in-target. Most of Schopenhauer's nite, with which Indian religion notions of India look half-baked in retrospect; and Nietzsche, who had an Indologist as a personal friend, still managed to his is why the discovery of make Indian philosophy sound quite like his own. Accuracy wasn't really the point. Classical India was a useful stick to flay one's own civilisation; it showed up the mediocrity and soullessness of the times.

A similar sort of aristocratic contempt for the modern age is evident in Ka, despite Calasso's declared intention to present "the Indianness of the mind of India, but in an Indian way". You may have reservations about this attitude. The first few

ARLY IN Ka, Roberto Calas- seized upon with delight by pages, for instance, are not easy going - not even for the very competent translator, Tim Parks, who recently wrote at length in the LRB about his first, bewildering encounter with Sanskrit abstractions.

Then the stories, so packed with meaning, proliferate too fast; and they often assume knowledge of other stories. Even a much longer book would be hard pressed to accommodate such a digressive form as classical Indian literature. Calasso stays out of the narrative frame, preferring to place the stories - taken from the Vedas, the Puranas, the Brahmanas, the Mohobharata, and Buddhist texts - in a kind of history of Indian thought.

His two preoccupations are easy to identify. In The Ruins of Kasch, he discussed the value of sacrifice in pre-modern societies. In Ka, there is a chapter on Asvamedha, the horse sacrifice conducted by ambitious kings, the last sinis-



by Roberto Calasso. translated by Tim Parks Cape, £16.99, 464pp

ter stages of which involve copulation between the dead horse enchant men even more than

and the first wife of the king. Calasso is also concerned with the nature of consciousness, with "the recognition that the existence of the universe is with respect to the existence of ness remains for most men an the mind". This sounds unfair-

ment lies in making these stories yield a larger sense of the way things are: he creates through them a cosmic drama in which we glimpse a bigger meaning behind everyday life.

Consider this moment, close

to the beginning of the world, when Parvati - consort of Shiva, the dark god of paradox magnificently curses Shiva's compatriots, the clean-cut gods who live up in the sky and present themselves as the paragons of goodness. "You are old." she says, "and the world is impatient to be rid of you. Up there, where you live, there will be nothing but emptiness, and that emptiness will you have enchanted them. Only Shiva shall be motionless, pervasive, intact, as he ever has been." Certainly, the dark god of paradox has had a longer run a secondary and derivative fact in human history, where good-

empty, if enchanting, promise.

stories from the Mahabharata wonderfully evokes the great melancholy that lies at the heart of this epic, and highlights its overarching theme: the cor-

rosions of Time, Kala. In common with most Hindus. Calasso considers the Buddha an incarnation of the Hindu godhead, Vishnu. This would annoy those Indian Buddhists who have worked hard to extricate the Buddha from the all-devouring Hindu pantheon. His account of the Buddha, although sympathetic, is coloured by his preference for

the pre-Buddhist, Aryan past. He attributes the beginnings of intellectual modernity to the Buddha's habit of "seeing things as so many aggregates and dismantling them"; and of "seeing the world as a landscape of interlocking cogs". An odd perception - but its truth was recognised by the great French structuralist Claude moving tribute to the Buddha.

There is something enthralling about such coherent sensibilities as Calasso and Lévi-Strauss holding a conversation with the older cultures of India. In both cases, you can witness a curiosity and freshness that is rare in our multiculturalist times, where on one side soundbite journalism and unreadable academese masquerade as knowledge; and on the other, a simple-minded assertion of ethnic identity steadily dispenses with the need to know, in any depth, one's own

or other people's cultures. A greater irony is that no contemporary Indian writer would be able to match such erudition and originality as Calasso displays in Ka. This raises the awkward question: how much of the "Indianness of the mind of the India" exists now? The civilisation that has come to India in the past 200 Levi-Strauss, whose Tristes years is a hybrid offshoot of the

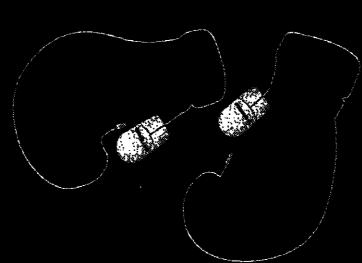
ly abstract because his achieve- Calasso's retelling of major Tropiques concludes with a Enlightenment in Western Europe. Since Independence, Indian talents have mostly gone into adapting – quite successfully – to powerful new ideas in the arts and sciences coming out of Europe and America. Strange as it may seem, Indian writing in English and nuclear bombs are aspects of the

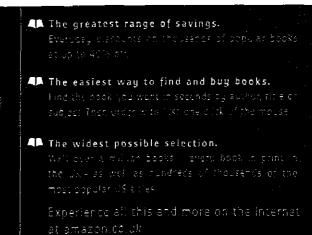
same ambiguous achievement. As for Indian philosophy, it has petered out in dry academic exegeses. To speak of the continuity of an essentially 'Indian" India is to speak primarily of practices and rituals that have survived among the poor and the pre-literate. India's more glorious past remains another country, even to those middle-class Hindu nationalists who routinely invoke it to underline the damage wrought by Islam and colonialism. It is to this sad neglect that Calasso's book offers a generous antidote.

Pankaj Mishra is a writer based in New Delhi and Simla

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COUNTRY **MATTERS**



DUFF HART-DAVIS

ssessing the past 12 months is generally an agreeable exercise; but I suspect that for many country folk 1998 was a year they would rather forget. Farmers saw prices fall below subsistence levels; landowners felt threatened by the proposed right to roam; and small communities everywhere were dismayed at the prospect of being buried under landslides of new housing estates.

Undoubtedly the most memorable day of the year was Sunday, 1 March, when nearly 300,000 people swarmed into London to walk from the Embankment to the Serpentine. It was a brave and brilliant morning, with a few high clouds sailing on the breeze, and the weather exactly matched the mood of the marchers, who were exhilarated to find that in defence of rural freedoms.

As at the Hyde Park rally of July 1997, the most striking feature of the country crowd was its good behaviour. The revolting peasants were clean, orderly, cheerful and civilised; and in the words of one Highland deer-stalker: "The extraordinary thing was that they all looked like human beings.

Yet their high spirits on the day concealed many deep worries. It is been blocked by filibustering. true that the spark that originally fired the mass protest was the attempt to ban fox hunting; but by last spring anxieties were building up on a much wider front, and in the nine months since the great march none of the worries has been allayed.

Indeed, one of the most depressing features of the debate on the future of the countryside is that facts appear to have had little impact. While Michael Foster, the MP for

Worcester, was campaigning for his Private Member's Bill to abolish



such huge numbers had turned out Memories of 1998: one of 8,000 beacons lit across the country in support of the countryside marches

hunting with hounds, every serious newspaper carried well-reasoned articles in favour of fox hunting, arguing that the activity was beneficial to conservation. Yet this surge of favourable publicity had absolutely no effect on the House of Commons, where the Bill won an enormous majority in favour - and it would have gone through, had it not

Similarly, when it comes to new houses, private research commissioned by numerous rural communities has shown that Government figures of alleged need are often grossly exaggerated. Yet few, if any, local councils pay the slightest heed to any accurate information brought to light. Instead, driven by the demands of developers and by the enormous prices that are paid for building land, they blunder on, burying more and more green land under bricks, mortar and concrete.

There is no doubt that a large majority of the population as a whole disapproves of hunting, and would not mind if it disappeared. This majority is a natural consequence of the fact that, compared with urban numbers, the rural population is tiny However, the question now surely ought to be one of tolerance: why should townspeople, who have no understanding of - or feel for - the country, impose their views on the

Not only is the rural population small: the number of people working on the land continues to fall. And although newcomers are constantly moving to live in villages, or taking over redundant farmhouses and converted barns, they have no roots or involvement in the countryside. In August, when I judged the best-

minority who live there?

kept small village in Gloucestershire to be Cherington, near Tethury, I remarked in my report that I found it

hard to imagine what the inhabitants did, so immaculate was the setting, with not a stone or lump of earth or blade of grass out of place among the parked Jaguars and BMWs.

Later, when we distributed the awards, a woman came up to me with a slightly self-righteous air and a whole list of professions which the village could boast - accountant, architect, solicitor and so on Apart from a single farmer, not one of them had anything to do with the land.

Another stirring memory is of the beacon bonfire we lit to herald the London march. The fire - which I myself had built - burned furiously, and we were bolstered by the knowledge that we were joining in a nation wide demonstration - nearly 8,000 beacons flared up that evening.

Deeper feelings, however, were aroused by the fact that our site was behind schedule, is going to be a joy. on the rampart of an iron-age fort, and by the knowledge that more than Best of all, the coppice merchant,

100 generations of our predecessors had used the place for their own purposes in times long gone. When dusky figures loomed up over the earthworks, as people climbed from the village to join the party, I sensed

from the dark Among other cheerful developments, our three alpacas, shorn for the first time, produced a mountain of wool which my wife is spinning and knitting into the softest, light-

est jerseys imaginable. Meanwhile, Jemima - now 10 months old - has grown into a solendid-looking labrador, and has inherited her mother's penchant for trying to pick up two or three different toys simultaneously. Our new priest-in-charge has proved an immediate success, and our refurbished kitchen, though weeks

Dave Cheskin/PA

Bodger White, continues to inhabit his camp in the high woods, in defiance of Stroud District Council's attempts to evict him, pouring scorn on professional conservationists and championing the merits of work on the woodland floor many a ghostly presence watching

When I walked out to offer him a seasonal bottle on Boxing Day, wild storms were roaring in from the Bristol Channel, but his stove was glowing cherry-red, and I felt reassured that one pillar of rural tradition, at least, is still very much

But I am still haunted by thoughts of the man who tried to commit suicide in the wood above the farm. His sister, who came to take his car away, promised to let me know how he was faring, but she never has. Did the huge overdose of pills damage his brain or liver? Is he alive? And if he is, does he resent the fact that I pulled him back from the brink?

NATURE **NOTES**

A FOUR-YEAR survey by the Mammal Society has exposed a "worrying decline" in the abundance of field voles and common shrews. The data was obtained by analysing the pellets of fur and bone regurgitated by barn owls. The remains of over 50,000 smail mammals were examined by volunteers, and the conclusion reached was that since the Seventies owis have largely gone off voles and switched from common shrews to the smaller pygmy shrews.



Experts point out that the owls would only go for smaller targets out of necessity: the relative scarcity of common shrew and field vole remains in the peliets shows that the two species must have gone downhill.

The decline of volus is attributed largely to the diminution of rough grassland, in which they thrive. The British population is still thought to be about 75 million, but the Mammal Society believes that the number is too small, and that any further fall will have serious effects on the survival of the predators kestrels and weasels beside barn owls - which live on them. The society is therefore launching new research to develop techniques for monitoring further population changes

Voles might have better survival rates if they could learn to make less noise. As it is, the squeaking and chittering of territorial disputes betray their presence to owls, which hun with ears as well as eyes.

DUFF HART-DAVI

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The seeds of triumph

Cheerful nasturtiums, unruly snapdragons, exotic zinnias ... Anna Pavord plans ahead for summer flowers

umph of our garden last year. It was a year when we needed the occasional triumph. so thank you, zinnias, are such outrageous flowers, so self-evidently foreign and exotic, I automatically assumed that they must be difficult. But no. I sowed seed of zinnia 'Allsorts' (Mr Fothergill, £1.10) on 15 March and four days later they

had germinated. That took me by surprise. And it also created a small worry. The one thing I had heard about zinnias was that they hate to be checked. Once started into growth, they like to zoom helter-skelter onwards. However, they also hate frost. I took a risk in setting them out at the beginning of May, but I got away with it. This year, I shall sow a little later, so that the plants need not be set outside until mid-May.

When the seedlings had made their first proper set of leaves, I transplanted each one into a separate three-inch pot and kept them on the sitting-room window sill, where they grew fast. After they had been transferred outside, they made big, bushy plants that came into flower in July. They were still flowering in

October, despite a drearily damp summer - the very thing they are said most to hate.

Zinnia 'Allsorts' - self-evidently foreign and outrageously exotic

them, I set them in the vegetable ment, they proceeded to upstage every other plant in the garden even the dahlias. Upstaging a dahlia, when you are only a tenth of its size. is a cheeky thing to do.

Purists look down on concoctions such as 'Allsorts', but if you want to understand what tricks a flower can do, growing a mixture is the easiest way to learn. Some of these zinnias were vast footballs of flowers, shocking pink, orange and yellow. Some were an extraordinary chartreuse green. Some had wonderfully complex centres, the stamens ringed in contrasting colours. None was a duffer

So how does one choose between varieties? I start by discounting any that the seedsman describes as a "dwarf strain". By nature, zinnias make wonderfully muscular, meaty growth, which does not need support. The overall habit is robust and the stems are strong. Other, weakly constructed plants may be strengthened by dwarfing. Zinnias certainly do not need it.

Fothergill, £1.45) which is two feet high with lime green flowers. 'Tuft-Because I was expecting little of ed Exemption' (Mr Fothergill, £1.55) has an odd, almost conical head, with garden in rows between beetroot a lower row of petals making a frill I had not grown them before. They and carrots. Outraged by this treat-round the bottom. 'Scabious Flowered' (Thompson & Morgan, £1.89) has huge, crested flowers in a mixture of scarlet, carmine, pink, yellow,

orange and cream.

The first zinnia to arrive in this country was Z. pauciflora. Its name suggests that it was an unimpressive performer, and Philip Miller, who grew it at the Chelsea Physic Garden in the 1750s, was not enthusiastic. Most of today's garden varieties have been bred from another Mexican species, Z. elegans. This arrived with us in 1796, thanks to the Marchioness of Bute, wife of the Ambassador to the Spanish Court. She was given it by Professor Ortega of Madrid, who also sup-

plied her with the first dahlias. Perennials are no more difficult to grow from seed than annuals, and I usually try some new aquilegia each year. They like our heavy clay soil; are equally happy in sun or shade, and have handsome greyish foliage which is an asset even when the plant is not flowering.

Last year I grew 'Melton Rapids'

I like the sound of 'Envy' (Mr (Thompson & Morgan, £2.49), deep, inky-blue flowers of the flat-faced. (so-called clematis-flowered) kind. These are much easier to keep in cultivation than the long-spurred types: however, you need both. Aquilegias, though, are such shameless cross-breeders, it is impossible to keep named varieties true to type. This year I am trying out 'Long-Spurred Choice Mixed' (Dobies, 88p). That should spawn some bizarre new mixtures.

Given an easy ride through winter, some flowers that we treat as annuals (like snapdragons) will settle down to flower again the following year. They make untidy plants, but come into bloom sooner than the new brood raised freshly from seed. So after dead-heading the snapdragons in the front border, and trimming back the straggliest growths, I've left them in situ, to see whether they'll perform again next summer.

This was an F2 strain called 'Corona Mixed' (Suttons, 99p), undwarfed at 20in, strong growing (though sprawling by nature) and in a good mix of colours. This year I want some dark-leaved, deep-red snapdragons, to put in a border with Canna iridiflora and the elegant grass, Pennisetum macrourum. 'Black Prince' (Thompson &

urated. This year's novelty is a which they were all originally intend-snapdragon with variegated foliage: which they were all originally intend-ed. There are still one or two flow-'Powys Pride' (Thompson & Morgan, £1.99) is 12-18in tall with velvety-red the branches of a shrubby ceratoflowers on top of leaves splashed and stigma in the blue and yellow border. mottled with cream.

The asters 'Allsorts Mixed' (Mr Fothergill, £1.10) were a disaster, melting in the damp, overcast summer to make little heaps of powdery mildew wherever they had been planted. But they are one of a clutch of familiar flowers that I always grow, and this year Γm trying the tall 'Matsumoto Mixed' (Suttons, £1.05).

Other staples are sunflowers, Californian poppies, nasturtiums and pot marigolds. They are all easy, cheerful flowers and you need a few stalwarts you can depend on while traitorous novelties are miffing off all round you. They are good flowers to use in mixes with vegetables, too: sunflowers with sweetcorn; Californian poppies with frizzy endive or lettuce; nasturtiums to make a carpet under standard gooseberries; pot marigolds to jazz up a planting of spinach.

Yellow, daisy-flowered bidens are on the way to becoming another staple. I sowed seed of 'Golden Goddess' (Unwins, £1.99) on 8 March. and raised enough plants to plant out

Morgan, £1.69) sounds suitably sat- in borders, as well as fill the pots for ers on a plant scrambling through

> Even more cheering are the new shoots at the base of the plant. Like the snapdragon, bidens are by nature perennial, but rarely, in this country, get a chance to settle into that comfortable habit. When I get round to cutting down the plant, those new shoots will perhaps take over. Without something to lean on, the plants flop, which is why they are so useful in containers. They fuzz the edges, and, although they make a lot of growth, are never bulky. That is because their foliage is so finely cut and sparse. The flowers last for a long period as well.

Seeds are available from Mr Fothergill's Mail Order Dept, Kentford, Suffolk CB8 7QB (01638 552512); Thompson & Morgan, Poplar Lane, Ipswich, Suffolk IP8 3BU (01473 688821); Samuel Dobie & Son, Broomhill Way, Torquay. Devon TQ2 7QW (01803 616888); Suttons. Hele Road, Torquay, Devon TQ2 7QJ (01803 614614), and Unwins Mail Order Dept, Histon, Cambridge CB4 4ZZ (01945 588522)

MILLENNIUM TREES

PLANTING A tree seems to be one of the few sensible things you can do to celebrate the millennium. You may guess from this remark that the millennium does not feature high on my agenda. It's only a number for heaven's sake. I worry about those 16 days that were lost in the 1600s. If we are celebrating two thousand years of the sun's rising and setting since Christ was born, then surely the shouting ought not to start until 16 January? However, each month this year, I shall be recommending a tree that is

fine enough to stand the passage of time. Before you plant, think forward. And make sure you give a tree space enough to breathe.



One of our few native evergreens; slow, stalwart. long-lived and capable of resprouting from the most unprepossessing old wood. This characteristic has, in the past, made the yew a favourite choice for garden hedges. It is even more beautiful as a tree, when the trunk, after rain, takes on the rich oxblood colour of mahogany. The tensile strength that made yew the favourite choice of English archers wanting new bows. is an advantage in storm and tempest.

Look at the venerable trees in the churchyards at Pandridge in Surrey, or Brockenhurst, Hampshire, or Hughenden in Buckinghamshire. This is the present you can give to future generations.

Choose the common yew, Taxus baccata, or perhaps one of its named variants such as 'Dovastoniana'. This is named after a Mr Dovaston of West Felton in Shropshire, who bought the seedling from a pedlar for sixpence and planted in his garden in 1777. Its distinguishing characteristic is its habit, the foliage hanging down from the main branches in swaying curtains. It is available from The Conifer Garden, Hare Lane Nursery, Little Kingshill, Great Missenden, Bucks HP16 0EF (01494 890624).

ANNA PAVORD

Wrap up warm for the winter

Vulnerable plants need protection as the really cold weather begins to threaten, but you don't need to spend a fortune to safeguard your outdoor favourites. By Ursula Buchan

AS THE days lengthen, the cold strengthens" is a saying I remember from my childhood. Yet, like most country saws, there is a lot of truth in it. The chances are that you will not experience a prolonged period of sub-zero temperatures until the year has turned, and the days are slowly lengthening. Now, therefore, is the time to think about protecting plants growing outside which are not bone-hardy, until temperatures begin to rise in spring.

Many people believe that this is one garden task too many, and that plants must take their chance. Either they will die, in which case you can replace them with something potentially more interesting. or else they survive and you will have been justified in doing nothing I would never subscribe to that view. There are plenty of plants upon whose survival I do not wish to gamble. Apart from anything else, Ffind I can never depend on easily acquiring a plant a sec- cioso are likely suspects. But ond time round (they have a there are also herbaceous



Use fleece to protect small, tender plants

just when I go looking for them) and the cost of many plants

hardly justifies such profligacy. Most gardens contain one or two slightly tender plants, especially evergreens, which can suffer from frost or cold wind damage. Carpenteria, ceanothus, abutilon, Cytisus battandieri, myrtle, lemonscented verbena, and Hebe spe-

way of vanishing from view plants which we do not wish to dig up each autumn and preserve inside, such as Salvia and Cosmos atrosanguineus.

The trick to wrapping up a plant in winter is to use something that will allow it to transpire without it becoming sweaty and fungus-prone, and, if possible, also to photosynthesise once dormancy comes to an end in early spring.

Bubble wrap has the advantage of being transparent, so spun fleece, then attach the bubble insulation only loosely (with waterproof tape) to the wall on each side of the plant. Bubble pack is also suitable

for protecting plants in containers. The growing medium in containers freezes more easily than soil in the border, so the roots of even hardy plants in pots are vulnerable to frost. Straw, if available, is a good

insulator but an adequate alternative, which can be bought in any garden centre, is polypropylene windbreak material. For small plants, the best material is spun fleece. It is easy to get hold of, not expensive, and excellent for protecting the crowns of tender perennials, such as Salvia patens, because it can be cut to size and tied down with pegs, or secured by soil heaped on the edges. It can also be laid in more than one layer in severe weather. This is a mater-

that plants receive some light. sowings of vegetables in the It is best to tuck in straw or spring or late crops in the autumn, but there is no reason why it should not have a prominent place in the winter garden - especially as it is a more sympathetic material aestheticalthan black polythene. It is also just the ticket, in early spring, for throwing over a small fruit tree in flower, or a vulnerable hydrangea, if frost is forecast.

It is probably a bit flimsy for very windswept places; it is easily blown away if not well secured. Last spring, after some blustery weather, I found a portion of it hanging from a climbing rose on the house, and traced it to a vegetable garden down the street. Spun fleece rarely lasts more than one season, but is so easy to handle that it takes the grind out of winter protection. And, if the winter really comes hard, that protection could be the difference between life and death. So, in the words of another saying from ial that many gardeners find my childhood: "Wrap up warm invaluable for protecting early or you won't feel the benefit."

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The Corkscrew Hazel (Corylus Contorta) has the most fascinating twisted branches. It has delightful yellow catkins from January to April and is invaluable for winter colour. It is slow growing, reaching eventually 10'. The secret is to keep it at a manageable 5' - 6' and crop branches for dried vase arrangements. On the continent the Corkscrew Hazel is grown en masse for flower arrangers.

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More juice, please

to cure post-Christmas depression, both for around £500 a head. The first is to book your summer holiday and tighten your financial belt for the next six months. The second is to book into a gym and tighten your trouser belt for the next six months.

The cheap, healthy way to clear your head and restore your energy is to give your internal engine an oil change by increasing the amount and quality of fluid you drink. H₂0 is the obvious solution, but rampant branding of the bottled variety combined with the unsavoury reputation of the on-tap stuff has literally clouded the waters of this ubiquitous liquid's lifesustaining qualities. And fizzy water is

The thought of rustling up a glass of freshly pulped, exotic fruit juice, though, seems far more in keeping with the zeitgeist, given the current vogue for juice bars where Sunny Delight-shunning aficionados sup cocktails of aloe vera, bluegreen algae and wheatgrass. The latter is available at Planet Organic (0171-221 7171) but at £12 a tray - around 20 fluid ounces of juice - it's a tad more expensive than the turf from the local garden centre.

Not that you have to go so far out of your way to concoct healthy drinks, Raw materials are plentiful in your local supermarket, and the nutritional value of, say, watermelon juice should not be underestimated - it stocks nearly as many vitamins as Boots (beta-carotene, folic acid, B1, B2, B3, B5, B6) and half a periodic table's worth of minerals, including calcium, magnesium and

hangover you woke with on New Year's Day? Probably not, but if you make the right juicer purchase then you can always use it to concoct perfect Bloody Marys. Researchers experimenting on rats may claim to have disproved the restorative capability of bar-tender Fernand L Petiot's 69-year-old hangover cure, but the hair of that particular bloodhound still works wonders on me.

MAY THE CENTRIFUGAL **FORCE BE WITH YOU** Name: Waring Professional Juice

Price: £239 Stockists: 0181-232 8171

Extractor

body, stainless steel parts and the sort of beavy-duty motor that keeps 18-wheel rigs on the freeways.

What It does: Centrifugal juicers work by grating fruit and veg through a fine mesh then ejecting the pulp and skin through rapid rotation. They aren't particularly efficient, and cleaning them is a royal pain in the ass. But they can be cheap - and all of them make tastier, creamier juice than the best freshly squeezed juices on offer in the supermarkets. This one is bigger, badder and better than the rest.

Style: * Any others worth considering? If colour co-ordination is your prime consideration, then Magimix do a range of 250-watt juice extractors in yellow, green, black and blue as well as the common white (199.50). According to Good Housekeeping, which is more concerned with practicality than looks, the 250-watt,

here are two common ways two-speed Hinari Lifestyle JEP311 (£26,50, stockists 0181-594 5533) delivers the best orange juice of the cheaper models in the range. Kenwood's two-speed JE500 (£36.25, stockists: 01705 476000) gives the most acceptable carrot juice.

> THE PRESS GANG Name: Rachand Products Giant Citrus Press

Price: £160 **Stockist:** Selfridges (0171-629 1234) What it looks like: The chunky metal nuts attaching its long, sprung-lever arm to its base give the Giant Press the appearance of a galvanised acoustic guitar stock. Upside down.

What it does: If oranges are the only fruit you're interested in - and let's face who is interested in alfalfa or kale juice? - then this industrial-looking beast mauls them with brutal efficiency. Chop your Vitamin C-carrier in half, shove it into the vice and pull on the lever. Your orange's last thought as the hydraulic lever crushes the life out of it will be of Sweeney Todd.

Style: ***

Any others worth considering? The compact, dome-topped Prolane Chrome Citrus Juicer (£52.95, stockists 0171-730 1234) and Dancer's cheaper copy (£29.95, John Lewis, 0171-629 7711), both of which look like the bastard offspring of an affair between R2D2 and a chrome cap-

ON A BENDER Name: Waring Professional Blender **Price: £149.95**

Stockists: Divertimenti (0181-246 4300) or 0181-232 8171 for other retailers hat it looks like: As well-proportioned

Would that have cured the raging as New York's Chrysler Tower and as important a symbol of American design (see picture, right). The Waring blender's 1.25litre glass jar (there is a metal version for £169 but it doesn't have the Coca-Cola coolness of the glass version, in production since 1935) sits snugly over blades sharper than Edward's scissorhands, atop a chrome plated platform (again there is a version with a blue enamel base for £149).

> What it does: Shreds fruit and veg into a thick, smooth liquid, and crushes ice - perfect for Margaritas!

Style: ****

Any others worth considering? Hamilton Beach does a 330-watt, 1.25-litre budget blender (£59.95, Liberty, 0171-734 What it looks like: The big daddy of 1234) or a versatile, seven-speed pro centrifugal juice extractors, this looks like model (£80), but the buttons on the latter are ugly. Better looking is Ma genes of a pressure cooker: cast iron streamlined, 450-watt, two-speed Pro Style: **** Blender (£119, John Lewis, 0171-629 7711), although its chunky tower looks like cheaply recycled glass and the plastic fittings are unsightly.

> SQUEEZER PLEASER Name: Juicy Salif

Price: £39.95 Stockist: Ocean (0870 8484840)

What it looks like: A tripod out of War of the Worlds. This Philippe Starckdesigned squeezer is well on the way to becoming a classic - for the middle classes at least - among whom it is looked upon with the same dewy-eyed affection as the Lazy Fish corkscrew.

What it does: Looks stately whether or not you use it to squeeze lemon onto your Marks & Spencer mixed salad. It would be the epitome of form before func- it tucked behind your Keith Floyd cooktion were it not for the tiny rubber tips attached to its metal legs, preventing it from scratching your Formica.



Ginger De Tox, £1.15,



Juicing for Health', £6.99, Books etc



Open-sided fruit bowl, £39.95, Ocean



Tumblers, £24.95 for 12, Divertimenti

Any others worth considering? Grunwerg does a stainless steel version (£12.99) of the classic glass lemon squeezer for those still living under the misapprehension that the Seventies really did come back in fashion. It also does a more contemporary-looking version with interchangeable cones for lime, lemon and grapefruit (£20, both Selfridges, 0171-629 1234).

JUICING BOOKS Name: Juicing for Health (Thorsons at Harper Collins)

Price: £6.99 Stockists: Books etc (0171-379 6838) or 0870 9002050 for other retailers What it looks like: Something so frighteningly straight that, if your friends spot book, you will have to pretend your mum forced it on you.

What it does: Straightforward advice

on juicing hardware, therapeutic juice cocktails, recipes to use up pulp overmatter, non-alcoholic party drinks and detox regimes. Like all such books, however, the advice must be taken with a pinch of salt (not literally). For instance, around one per cent of hayfever sufferers get raw-food intolerance related to their allergy, and rather than soothing them, the recipes mentioned here might actually worsen the condition.

Waring Professional Blender, £149.95, Divertimenti (0181-246 4300)

Style: * Any others worth considering? Plenty, including the hardcore pulper's handbook, Complete Raw Juice Therapy (£5.99, Thorsons, 0870 9002050) which includes a "cure" for cancer - two pints of carrot or beetroot a day - and Juice High: Experience the Power of Row Energy (£7.99, Books etc., 0171-379 6838) which, despite its tuned-in, dropped-out title is so uninformed as to current pop mores that it believes Ginger Spice comprises three carrots, a pear and a chunk of ginger

And if you think all of the above sound tiresome and worthy, then look out for Shakes & Soda Smoothies by Deborah Gray (£8.99, Apple) which is due out soon and set to include cal-horrific recipes for Coconut Hula Screams and Marshmallow Foam (an unholy trinity of milk, mini marshmallows and raspberry ice cream). I'll try to stick to the Virgin Marys, for a week at least.

FINISHING TOUCHES 1. Store: fruit bowl, £39.95, Ocean (0870

2. Serve: set of 12 large tumblers, £24.95, Divertimenti (0181-246 4300) 3. No spills: Alessi oversized chrome coasters, £9.95, Selfridges (0171-629 1234) 4. Cheat: Ginger De Tox with pineapple and ginger, from £1.15, Cranks (0171-792 0192 for nearest outlet)

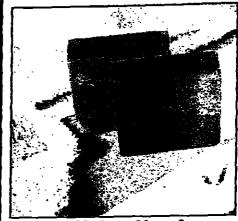
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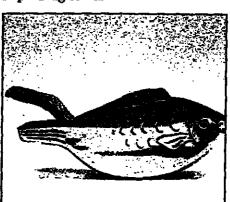
Organic boule bio bread, £1.65, Maison Blanc (0181-838 0848 for nearest shop)



Clear soap blocks and bars, from £1.95, Droyt's (01257 417251 for mail



Té Tao shampoo, designed according to the principles of leng shul, £2.99. from most Tesco, Boots and Superdrug stores



Metal lemon-squeezer, £5. Oliver Bonas (0181-892 0808 for nearest



exfoliator, £20. Origins (0800 7314039 for stockists)



Bra-support vest, £28.95, Body

CHECK IT OUT

CHILDREN'S PYJAMAS MY FAVOURITE bedtime story is the one



SHOPTALK

IF YOU feel you need to get treatment is tailored to back in shape in the New Year, give yourself a beauty break without breaking into sweat with a professional aromatherapy facial. Decleor is offering Independent readers a facial at its in-store beauty rooms for £15 during January, instead of the usual price of £35. As well as receiving a set of miniature specialist samples for your skin type, the cost of the facial will be redeemable against the purchase of any two or more of Decleor's natural

products. included in the onehour facial is a personal skincare consultation to make sure that the

suit your skin, and a gentle diagnostic back massage. The facial will end with a make-over to help get you ready to face the world again. To book the Decleor facial

at the special price of £15, call your nearest Decleor beauty counter, leaving your credit card details and quoting The Independent'. Offer runs throughout Jan at House of Fraser stores, and from 4-9 & 18-31 Jan at John Lewis and Peter Jones stores in London, For more information and/or details of participating stores, call Decleor on 0171-262 0403 x229

where all my children have a bath without argument, brush their teeth - with toothpaste - then, smelling and looking like fresh, rosy apples, put their pyjamas on, get into bed, we talk and read, and they go to sleep. The reality is very different. Persuading children that there is a time for bed is a challenge when supermarkets and the television ignore the idea that days have a beginning and end. What they should wear in bed is another cause of disharmony. In your search for the ideal pyjamas, start

by deciding what bedtime story you want to tell, Kent & Carey's classic English pyjamas for boys are perfect if you enjoy Richmal Crompton's Just William. Even its brushed cotton has something of the hair-shirt about it, and only the most confident boys will appreciate the yawning flies. As well as classic gingham, checks and stripes, Kent & Carey has prints with dogs, bears, cars and aeroplanes. Winter pyjamas start at £30 and,

blue, navy or pink, is £15.95. For those who prefer Hans Christian Andersen's fairy tales, French pyjamas are the answer. Rachel Riley's thick cotton flannelette pyjamas for boys and girls are

for spring, a unisex,

cotton pyjama in sky



by Rachel Riley, above; classic styles by Kent and Carey, left

generously baggy and come in green and lilac patterns, as well as the more traditional pink and blue. Prices start at £32 from Rachel Riley (0171-259 5969). For fun, try Coup de Coeur's

unisex prints. Pyjamas are cotton interlock, with winter styles brushed inside for extra softness, and wrists and ankles cuffed to stop sleeves and trouser legs riding up. Pyjamas cost between £35 and £40; Coup de Coeur's boy's boxer-short-and-T-shirt pyjamas, from £30, easily pass for designer daywear, so are a good buy for children who absolutely refuse to wear pyjamas. Both ranges are available from Butterscotch, 172 Walton Street, SW1 (0171-581 8551); sales at Rachel Riley and

Butterscotch start on Monday. Also on sale is Petit Bateau's range of comfortable towelling velour pyjamas for

boys and girls, at its factory outlet shop at Bicester Village, Oxfordshire (01869 244336). Prices range from £13 to £23, with 30 per cent off until the end of January. Bicester Village also boasts Big Dog,

home of American pyjamas. Its unisex cotton jersey pyjamas feature Little Big Dog in different sporting designs, and fans of Disney find them great fun. Pyjamas cost between around £35 and £45, and have 50 per cent off during January. There are also the children's fashion

catalogues. Vertbaudet (0500 332211) has pairs of boys' cotton pyjama bottoms with wide, SuperCool waistband elastic, from £7.99. These can be matched with their favourite T-shirt as a bedtime compromise. La Redoute (0500 777777) offers everything from cotton interlock and flannelette to stretch towelling and velour. Its L'Heure Anglaise classic pyjamas, from £7.99, are excellent value; Empire's (0800 220230) T-shirt and short pyjamas for boys and girls are also excellent value at £9.99 for a pack of two. For mail-order sales, try Mini Boden (0181-453 1535) during January. Its boys' stripped and checked flannelette pyjamas, are the softest I've found. Priced from 222, there is £6 off during the sale and, for girls, its jersey star and rose design pyjamas are reduced by £4 to £14. All these brands make pyjamas for a wide

range of ages, but remember that US pyjamas are slim fitting to comply with their safety regulations, so are only for the lean. Sweet dreams.

DEBBIE DAVIES Control Pilates (01858 469588)

Property & Motoring

ON ONE thing all property pundits are agreed. There is a nervousness in the market which will see business in the New Year start with a whimper rather than a bang. The cause of this caution is harder to pin down.

One thing is clear, people's perception of what they can afford is more closely tied to economic forecasts than interest rates. While borrowing looks as attractive as it does, this would seem a good moment to brave the property market, but according to FPDSavills Research, we are saving more and choosing to spend more on leisure activities.

Consumer confidence flow at present; and job security (shaky in a number of areas) have more bearing on houseprice rises than how cheap money is. Savills forecast that prices in the mainstream will rise by 4 per cent over the coming 12 months while prime central London will fall by 5 per cent, explained by the uncertain financial sector and an overall increase in supply. They do not expect the investment demand to

pick up until yields rise above 9 per cent again. Robin Paterson, group managing director of Hamptons International, believes that prices in many areas of London have yet to "bottom out". Outside the capital with its equally fragmented picture he says that prices still need to fall in some areas by as much as 10 per cent. At the same time, good quality homes in prime locations will do better

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PENNY JACKSON

Experts agree that housing markets will continue to be shaky and uncertain in 1999

towards the end of the year. Country houses may well rise by 5 per cent

from Spring. At Knight Frank, they do not expect buyers to pay over the odds for less than outstanding houses, as they did last year.

However, some show real optimism. At John D Wood, Peter Young does not expect the wariness to last for long. "Whatever the cloud, whether the Gulf War or a gloomy economic forecast, people hesitate for a while and then get back to business as usuai."

But perhaps the candid summary of Bidwells, property consultants, is the one that most closely reflects how many people feel. "The prospects for the property industry over the next 12 months have never been more difficult to read. It does seem probable that the top of the performance cycle has been reached but with the fundamentals for the market remaining sound, the landing is likely

to be soft."

CARDIFF, BARRY AND PENARTH

HOT SPOT

Posh and poor down on the waterfront

will mostly devote themselves to

leisure pursuits. Thanks to a new barrage enclosing the bay between Cardiff and Penarth, a large permanent freshwater lake will replace mud flats. A sizeable swathe of Barry's waterfront is being reclaimed. Like a fairy godmother, waterfront urban regeneration is transforming South Glamorgan almost beyond recognition.

This area has always blended posh and poor, and the popular villages in the Vale of Glamorgan will oblige you if you want to spend seven digits' worth of pounds. In urban areas, less than £50,000 buys a new or not so new flat or, in some areas, even a house. New luxury three-bedroom flats and penthouses cost upwards of £300,000.

Cyncoed, Llandaff, Whitchurch and Heath are among Cardiff's premier residential areas. "The top end of the market is very strong," says the man who gives his name to Kelvin Francis and Co. estate agents, "and

THE HARBOURS in Cardiff and Barry the best houses can cost more than used to work for a living. Soon, they £400,000. But three-bedroom homes are also available for as little as £75,000. Heath is always a good investment. It's a barometer. If Heath is not selling well, the market generally is in poor shape. Heath is an ideal middle ground."

"A good place for a bargain in Penarth," says Victoria Bywater of John Leslie estate agents, "is the town centre where there are small traditional terraces, many in poor condition." She also recommends the area near Paget Road and Paget Place. where bay views come with houses, some very large. "People have already caught on to this. A year ago the midterrace four- or five-bedroom house you could have picked up for £60-65,000 now sells for about £90,000."

Cheaper still are ex-council flats, although the recent relocation of large numbers of problem families is plaguing some of these estates.

Even cheaper is Barry where, says Ms Bywater, "a two- or three-bed mid-terrace sells for £35-40,000 and



The popular Pontcanna district of Cardiff has seen strong property price rises

would go for £55-60,000 in Penarth." The countryside "contains many attractive villages but not many properties are available and access into Cardiff isn't good," says Mr Francis. The schools in the area, in Ms By-

water's view, "are wonderful. Two comprehensive schools, Stanmore Road and St Cyrus, have excellent reputations, and there are many private and primary schools to choose from."

Ms Bywater believes that "with the

barrage nearing completion and many businesses moving to the area, everyone needs homes but the limited supply means that prices are moving up quite rapidly"

ROBERT LIEBMAN

LOWDOWN

Prices: Cardiff developer St David has just raised the prices on the 21 flats, penthouses and town houses in its Meridien development in Penarth, bringing them to between £195,000 and £300,000. In Penarth. new flats and period houses both return change from £100,000. Excouncil houses are available for £65,000, and flats for less than £40,000. Cardiff is generally more, and Barry less, expensive.

Transport: The M4 skirts Cardiff

to the north. Inter-city rail service serves London via Bristol and Bath. Local trains link Cardiff, Penarth and Barry. Cardiff International Airport is three miles west of Barry. Seeing and Doing: Plenty of waterfront and open country mean

plenty of boating and golf. The area has lots of attractions for all tastes and age groups. Later this Year: Elections for the Welsh Assembly are due to be held in May. The Rugby World Cup is coming in June. Judging by Travel Brochure: "It's an age-old adage, but it's true. People do judge places by the standard of toilet facilities." Estate Agents: John Leslie & Partners, Penarth 01222 712266; Kelvin Francis & Co; Cardiff 01222 766538.

Shopping and Dining: In the Cardiff area there are four malls and plenty of quality restaurants.

Japanese cars could yet seduce us Euro snobs

THIS WILL be the year when Japanese car manufacturers start to win over the hearts and heads of Europe's car buyers.

They have won over the rest of the world, of course. Whether he Dar-es-Salaam, Dubai. Delhi or even Detroit, the majority of the people know and accept that, when it comes to cars, the Japanese do it best.

An American friend of mine, who knows a thing or two about cars, can never quite figure why we crazy Europeans still buy our Rovers and our Renaults and our Fiats (VWs, he can just about fathom) instead of Japanese-built cars.

He puts it down to the same rich vein of eccentricity that has persuaded the French to stick

with vellow headlights, the English to drive on the left, and the Italians to drive at all.

I put it down to government protection, national customer bias, badge snobbery (we are than the Americans, despite what we pretend) and ignorance.

It is a sad and undeniable truth that, in terms of production engineering and construction quality, Toyota and Honda are the world's finest car-makers. Most of the other Japanese manufacturers are not that far behind. The Europeans are catching up, as are the Americans, but the gap is still

pretty obvious. Another major consideration in Europe's successful

rearguard action against the Japanese has been their leadership in "emotional" values. European cars are thought to have more "personality"

Literally, of course, tin boxes personalities, but the Europeans have long been masters of pleasing customer sensibilities by their attractive styling, communicative handling, and promotion of brand values.

It has taken the Japanese much longer to learn these intangible virtues than it did the black-and-white issues such as tidy assembly, value for money and good reliability.

There have certainly been flashes of inspiration (Mazda MX-5, Honda CR-X, Toyota RAV-

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GAVIN GREEN

It is a sad truth that, in terms of engineering and construction quality, Toyota and Honda are the

world's finest car-makers

4, Nissan Skyline GTR). But just when you think - "they've cracked it!" - they launch a Mazda 323, a Honda Accord, a Tovota Carina E or a Nissan Anything-But-A-Skyline. And Europe's makers breathe a

collective sigh of relief again. This year promises to be different. First, there are two cracking new Toyota models on the way, which are as desirable as they are sensible. The first is the new Yaris, the baby hatchback that was

previewed at the Paris Motor Show in September and will be assembled in France. It is bound to be

as reliable as a Japanese watch. To boot, it has a pleasing streak of individuality about its styling and promises to be brilliantly economical. It is likely to be the star car in Europe's biggest car class, the Fiesta sector.

Also on its way is Toyota's first Lexus model aimed at Europe rather than America. The IS200, previewed at the Birmingham Show a couple of months ago, has a touch of BMW 3-series about its

styling, yet has enough design and The Mazda

Antiques/Fine Art

BEST EVER JANUARY

engineering originality to persuade people finally to part with their BMWs.

Also imminent are road versions of the Subaru Impreza and Mitsubishi Lancer rally cars which Colin McRae and Richard Burns used to such devastating effect in international rallies last year. These super-powerful, brilliant handling machines are all the motoring rage in southeast Asia but have long been denied to UK customers.

They are true "hero" machines, cars which could do to mid-range European sports saloons what the Nintendo 64 did to the bagatelle. They are bound to elevate the images of their manufacturers, and the image of Japanese car-makers.

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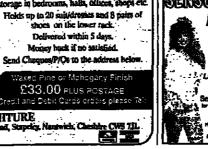
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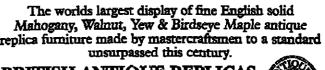
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PERSONAL FINANCE

The arrival of genetically modified foods will mean a whole new range of dilemmas to be faced by ethical investors.

By Paul Slade

avers with a conscience have long been able to choose specialist funds which avoid areas like tobacco manufacture or the arms industry. But rapid advances in genetic engmeering have created a whole new area of concern for ethical investors, and one which the fund management industry has only begun to get to grips with.

Some campaigners say issues such as cloning or genetically modified food will raise the same strength of passion which only nuin the past.

Karen Eldridge, of Eiris, an ethical investment research specialist, says: "Genetic engineering is an issue that people are very con-cerned about right now, and it doesn't look as if it's going to go away.

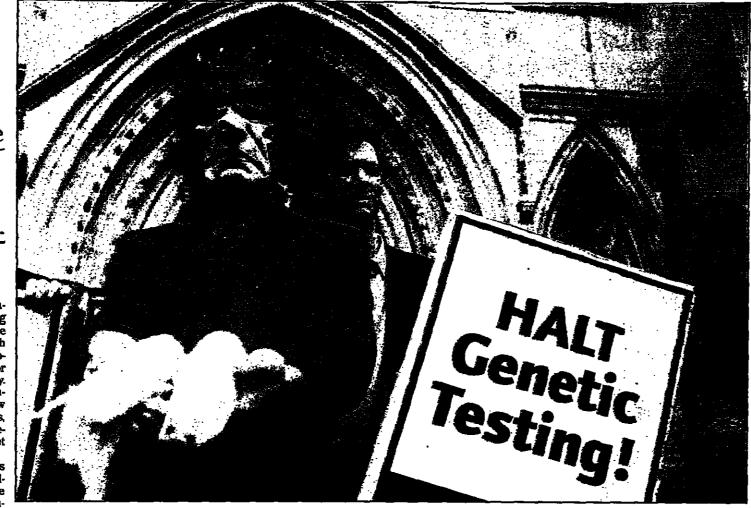
"It is very important that each ethical investor thinks through what their own concerns are, and finds the fund that best matches those. The food angle seems to be the issue that is drawing most attention from the public now."

Many of the healthcare companies involved in genetic engineering are already banned from ethical funds because they use animal testing. But this indicator is no help in weeding out companies which make or sell food containing ingredients such as genetically modified soya.

A recent MORI poll found that over three-quarters of the people surveyed wanted to see genetically modified food banned, and that nearly two-thirds would not want to eat it themselves.

To help deal with issues like these. Eiris has proposed a set of cri-teria setting out what it believes is acceptable practice. About half the ethical funds on the market already use Eiris criteria in other areas, such as pollution control, when setting their investment policy.

Eiris has identified 36 companies



clear power has been able to inspire Organic farmers and Friends of the Earth protesting outside the High Court

Your money where your mouth is?

or groups in the 900-strong FTSE All-Share Index which use genetically modified ingredients in the food they make, or the own-brand foods they sell.

Of these, only seven - including Asda, Iceland and United Biscuits have what Eiris believes is "good" or "exceptional" policy "Good" means they use non-modified ingredients for over 50 per cent of their relevant lines, and label all genetically modified ingredients on packaging.

Ms Eldridge says: "If the supermarkets are selling own-brand products that contain genetically modified soya, then what is their policy on that? Do they label them up properly? Now that this issue is in the public eye, I think ethical fund managers will be looking at it more."

Twenty-three of the 36 companies involved in this sector, including Unilever, got a "poor" rating from Eiris, some for refusing to answer the organisation's questions. For those which did answer, this rating means they use non-modified ingredients for less than 10 per cent of relevant lines, and label genetically modified ingredients

only when required to do so by law. By far the biggest ethical fund in the UK is Friends Provident's Stewardship fund, which has over £800m under management. Richard Singleton, a member of the company's ethical unit, accepts that fund managers still have a great deal of work

to do on genetic engineering. Mr Singleton says: "There is a possibility that genetic engineering

simply say 'Gosh this is terrible' is the wrong reaction.

"On the other hand, it is perfectly possible that we will have some form of modification that is very effective for its intended purpose, but which has other completely unforeseen consequences. We research these issues, but think it is far too early to draw a line."

The Stewardship fund's own practice at present is not to buy shares in companies which practice animal testing, which effectively bars genetic engineering for medical purposes too.

As far as food technology is concerned, Mr Singleton says Stewardship would avoid any company which did no more than meet the

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will turn out to be very good. So to basic legal requirements. The only exception to this would be a case where there were overwhelming positive factors elsewhere in the company's behaviour.

Mr Singleton says: "If a company does not appear to have any understanding that there is concern about this subject and could not care less, that would almost certainly be a cause for exclusion. Essentially, that means doing no more than the legal minimum.

Eiris says there are already three companies in the All-Share index which genetically engineer organisms to treat crops, 37 companies which genetically engineer organisms for use in laboratories or factories, and one which has patented gene seguences of its own.

How to translate the often misleading language of retailers. By Teresa Hunter

When a sale is not a sale

EVERYONE LOVES a bargain, but shoppers would do well to eye with scepticism the "massive reduction" stickers of the January sales. It's what you spend, not what you save, that counts.

In fact, the term "sale" does not mean "to sell at a lower price" at all, either legally or actually. It merely describes a retailing event when goods are sold, according to the Institute of Trading Standards Administration. Trading standards officers are becoming increasingly concerned at the way retailers are routinely flouting laws controlling

the way goods are priced.

It is a criminal offence to mislead customers that the price of an item has been cut by falsely claiming it was previously on sale for more. Yet some creative pricing allows even reputable stores to do just that.

To claim a genuine reduction, an item must have been on sale at a higher price for at least 28 days during the previous six months. Many of the big chains, however, will claim a massive reduction when something has been displayed for more at just one branch.

The London stores which target tourists are often used to test higher prices where there was never any intention of selling an item so dearly across the country. Furthermore, recommended retail prices and manufacturers' recommended prices, which have been banned by the Department of Trade and Industry for misleading customers and allowing stores to price-fix, have given way to ASP, or after-sales prices, a promise of what something might be sold at in the future.

Eric Robinson, chairman of the Institute of Trading Standards Administration, warns: "Consumers are given the impression that prices will soar once the sale is over. An ASP is simply a claim that something may be priced more highly when the sale is over. But it is unenforceable."

Many stores will claim huge discounts on goods which are imported, especially for the January sales, but which may be of inferior quality. This is a particularly hazardous area for shoppers because not only are price comparisons impossible, but normal consumer protection measures may also be invalid.

As with pre-sale goods, you can claim a cash refund on any faulty item: signs indicating otherwise. such as "no sale goods exchanged", are illegal. Report the shopkeeper to the local trading standards department. Similarly, where the retailer insists you sign an acceptance note, you have not legally "accepted" the item and can still claim a refund where something is broken. But where faults are pointed out to you, or you could have reasonably been expected to see them, the right to an automatic refund is lost. So if clothes are advertised as seconds, then a "reasonable" shopper is expected to examine them carefully and discover the fault.

John Lewis, whose sale started on Tuesday, admits to importing "second quality" products from its manufacturers during its bi-annual clearances. A spokesman explains: "We do not use the term sale. We prefer 'clearance' because that is exactly what we do. Our twiceyearly clearance is intended to clear the previous season's stock."

But Arcadia, which comprises Burton's, Dorothy Perkins, Evans. Principles, Top Shop. Top Man. Hawkshead and Racing Green, is adamant it does not import inferior stock for the sale. A spokesman explained: "We have a very tough group-wide policy which prevents stock being carried over from season to season. If, at the end of the sale, items remain unsold, then we would pass them on to the sales outlets in factory villages.



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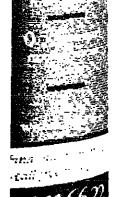
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Share



Gainful resolutions Losing weight is one thing, but saving

money is a resolution that it pays to keep.

By Nic Cicutti

very New Year, , I make a series of resolutions. Mostly, they are to do with health and fitness. To be honest, I rarely stick to them: they demand constant application - and I am congenitally lazy.

Financial resolutions are different, however. Once you have carried out the particular task you set out to, that should be it. Except that in this case, you could be hundreds of pounds better off.

Here is my list of things to do in 1999. Some of these ideas have already featured in The Independent. If you haven't yet taken advantage of them, it will almost certainly pay to act

Find more competitive home/ contents and motoring insurance. It is a sad fact that most insurers rely on policyholders' inertia to make money. This literally means that many will offer a highly competitive quote in the first year, only to rack up premiums in subsequent years.

They expect that you will stay with them for at least two or three years before you tire of their high prices. Ten minutes' worth of phone calls to obtain a better quote, on the other hand. could save you a fortune.

One relatively new insurer on the block is Liverpool Victoria Friendly Society. The company is at present heavily undercutting most of its rivals in a bid to grab more business. In practice, this means many of its premiums are up to a third cheaper. Give it a try on 0800 608608.

■ Paying off the mortgage early is most people's dream. Here is one way to do it: take out a 10-year fixed-rate loan with FirstMortgage, pegged at for hefty discounts that could, 5.95 per cent, and get it over and done with in that period.

The interest savings could be vast. Using the 10-year repayment option would mean that a £50,000 mortgage would incur total interest charges of £17,773. By contrast, a 25-year repayment loan, even at FirstMortgage's good value 7.7 per cent variable rate, would mean paying £64,112 in interest. £46.339 more. FirstMortgage's

number is 0800 080088. ■ Every year, PEP companies flood newspapers with adverts designed to sell you one of their financial products. The hard sell may be repugnant, but there's no denying that for higher-rate taxpayers who want to set aside fairly large sums every year, tax-free sav-

ings schemes are a good idea. Key to the process is finding the right funds to invest in. If you are not an expert investor,



When the party's over, a few judicious phone calls will get the new year off to a good start

IFA Promotion will supply you with a list of three independent fináncial advisers based in your area. They are now listed according to their expertise. Call 0117 9711177.

If you don't want to pay heavy commission and know what to invest in already, the (oddly named) Building Society Shop has a nifty idea. It sends you a guide which allows you to select an appropriate PEP, based on a flow chart which gives you a range of up to 16 different investment options. In some cases, not only do you save up to £300 in commission ... they pay you to invest your money. Call 0321 237823 (freephone) for your guide.

Alternatively, you could try the similarly-named ISA Shop in some cases, not only mean no initial charge at all for investing in a PEP, but you could get back in cash up to 0.75 per cent of the sum invested paid to you. The ISA shop has dozens of PEPs to choose between, from its own comprehensive (and free) 64-page

guide. Call 01777 839205. By now you will be rather sick of being told that you should be pumping more money into a pension. The fact remains, however, that most of us are grossly underfunded when it comes to our retire-

ment income. Moreover, the taxman is extremely generous in helping us save. For every £60 paid into a pension by a higher-rate taxpayer, the Inland Revenue offers a further £40. In practice, this is an automatic 66 per cent overnight increase in the value of your initial investment. It is also possible to go back up to six years and make use of unused allowances. You have until 5 April to decide where the

money should go.
The key to successful pension saving lies in minimising the cost of contributions into a scheme, especially initial charges. Which is where Torquil Direct Choice comes in. The company has negotiated

If Christmas shopping has caused nearterminal damage to your credit card, it is time to switch

with a number of leading pension providers - Standard Life, Scottish Widows, Scottish Life and CGU - whereby it will offer one of their pensions.

Instead of hefty commission fees, Torquil Direct Choice will charge just £50 plus VAT to set up the pension. Torquil also receives a small "trail" commission for as long as the plan is kept going.
The result, according to the

company, is that assuming the same rate of growth, a pension fund set up with Torquil Direct would be worth more than though other self-professed ultra-cheap providers such as Tesco or Virgin Direct. Call 08000 561836. ■ Life assurance is some-

thing anyone with a family

needs. It is also virtually mandatory when buying a home.

Over the past few years, term assurance has gained in popularity. This is where you set a term, say 10 or 20 years, and insure your life for a sum that is chosen by you. You then pay a regular monthly premium. If you die within that period, your estate collects. If you don't,

Surprisingly for such a 'plain vanilla' product, where mortality risks are similar for all insurers, premiums can vary wildly. But a new company, Life-Search, aims to subvert all that high-charging nonsense.

Quite simply, Life-Search promises to undercut the price of any policy sold on the market. If you can find a cheaper quote, it will beat it.

For example, a non-smoking female aged 40 could obtain cover that pays out £200,000 in the event of death within 20 years for £28.35 a month. Norwich Union, by contrast, would charge £52.80 for an identical policy. Call Life-Search on 0845 6030401.

Finding a decent home for your savings where you also receive relatively speedy access is hard to achieve.

In recent weeks, the new Egg Savings Account has been in the spotlight, thanks to the 8 per cent gross rate of interest it has paid savers since its launch in October. This rate is now set to drop to 7.25 per cent. Despite this cut, Egg, which is owned by Prudential, is still a highly attractive place for

Even so, almost nine out of 10 can't be bothered to shop around for the best rate on a

monthly basis, and 85 per cent say they haven't done so in the past five years. Only 7 per cent

do so every three years. For savers who prefer not to open a savings account only for the initially attractive rate to start sinking below its competitors a few weeks later, there are two options.

One is Virgin Direct. The company's new instant-access Deposit account offers a rate of interest guaranteed not to be more than I per cent below the UK clearing-bank base rate until December 2001. Right now, that means 6.25 per cent gross, though that may fail shortly.

Alternatively, First Active, best known for its highly flexible mortgages, has launched a Fairdeal account. promising the average of the 20 highest-paying instant access accounts on the market. To spice things up, First Active is taking the average interest of the top 20, paid on balances over £10,000 - where rates are usually highest, currently 7.16 per cent gross - but in Fairdeal's case, applying it to a minimum balance of £1,000.

Call 0800 558844 for details.

Finally, if Christmas shopping has caused nearterminal damage to your credit card, it is time to switch. Capital One Bank, a leading US card issuer, offers two alternatives. One is a card with a 6.9 per cent APR introductory rate until 31 July. The other is a rate of 9.9 per cent APR until 2001. Both cards have the usual 54 days worth of interest-free credit. And they charge no annual fee, unlike many of their rivals. This one is a no-brainer. Call

Mutually beneficial for society members

ciety could benefit by an average of almost £2,200 compared to a bank, by saving and holding a mortgage with a mutually-owned institution. But those likely to gain the most from a mutual are younger building society ety (£4,106). Direct Line, a remembers with larger sums to

save and bigger home loans. This is the verdict of a series of surveys which also show building societies dominate the best-value tables for mortgages and Tessas.

In the past three years, nine out of the 10 cheapest lenders have been building societies, according to a report by the Research Department an independent financial information provider.

A separate survey by MoneyFacts showed that a borrower with Coventry Building Society, the cheapest lender, would have paid £3,985 in interest over one year on a typical £50.000 interest-only variable-rate loan. The society's figures, however, look more favourable by virtue of being calculated on the basis of its "privilege" rate, which

MEMBERS OF a building so- is 0.75 per cent lower for bor- alised societies, Halifax came rowers who stay with it for 61 months or more.

Other cheap lenders include Nationwide (charging £4,070 for the same loan) Bradford & Bingley (£4,082) and Yorkshire Building Socicent entrant in the home loan market, was second cheapest after one year (£4,009) and also cheapest after three

The cheapest non-mutual over three years was Northern Rock in 11th place - although it too used its "loyalty" variable rate to arrive at an overall interest repayment of £4,228. The next cheapest bank was Midland, which

For Tessas, building societies again led the pack, with 16 of the 20 top-paying providers. The best Tessa at the beginning of this month came from Norwich and Peterborough Building Society. and paid £11,655 on a maximum £9,000 investment. This was £571 more than the worst provider, Yorkshire Bank.

charged £4,332.

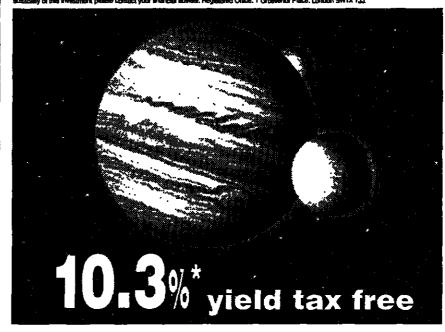
Of the newly de-mutu-

17th out of 85, with a payout of £11,537, while Alliance & Leicester. Woolwich and Northern Rock came 82nd,

76th and 63rd respectively. Adrian Coles, director general at the Building Societies Association, says: "These surveys show that building societies are offering the most competitive deals."

Despite the good news for society members, a separate survey on behalf of Reuters suggests that there is a benefits threshold which mutuals must meet to retain loyalty. The threshold is set at £2,200. the average free share handout from de-mutualising societies such as Halifax. Alliance & Leicester and others. Average benefits come close, at £2,196 - the assumed amount for a borrower with 10 years to run on a £80,000 mortgage and £11,000 in a

savines account To stay ahead in the loyalty stakes, societies should increase savings rates and lower borrowers rates even further, the report suggests. NIC CICUTTI



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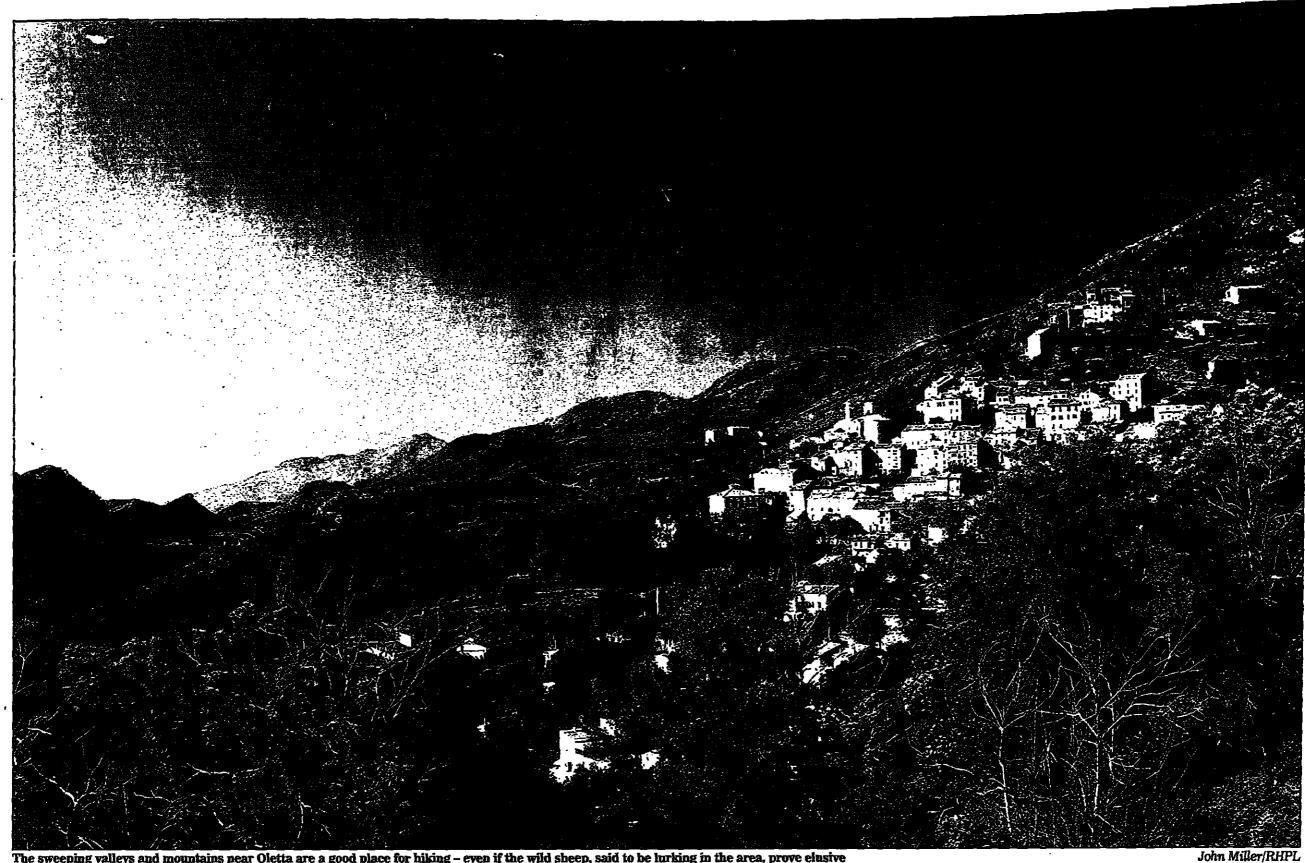


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The sweeping valleys and mountains near Oletta are a good place for hiking - even if the wild sheep, said to be lurking in the area, prove elusive

Wild beasts and red-blooded passions

The craggy hills of Corsica are alive with vengeance, vendetta and rare animals. And it's perfect walking country. By Kathy Marks

ean-Francois, our guide, raised a forefinger and the group fell silent. We gazed out over the broad sweep of the valley, at the rocky slopes sprinkled with ancient Laricio pines. Overhead, an eagle soared among the granite peaks. But there was no sign of our elusive quarry.

Setting off at first light, we had hiked up to a windswept ridge near the summit of the 1,500-metre Cuccavera Pass in central Corsica. It had been a long and arduous climb, punctuated by bursts of rainfall. Would we be rewarded with a glimpse of a mouflon?

Three days earlier none of us had even heard of this creature, whose name sounded like a colloquialism for a strangled French sheep. Now. a little wiser about the local fauna, we knew it to be a rare species of wild mountain sheep native to Corsica and neighbouring Sardinia.

On Sardinia, mouflon were long

sican flock has dwindled to little more than 1,000 animals although the species has been protected, in theory, since the early Seventies. The Cuccavera Pass is part of the Monte Cinto massif, one of two regions where the animals still roam.

For me, and for my dozen companions, the die was cast on the day that we arrived in Evisa, the mountain village that was the base for our week-long walking holiday. Heading to the hotel bar for an aperitif, we noticed a striking photograph hanging on the wall. It showed a singularlooking creature crowned by gigantic spiral horns. We almost choked on our pastis. The great mou-

fion hunt had begun. Day after day we scanned the maquis, the dense tangle of undergrowth that shrouds much of Corsica's rugged interior. Our hopes were highest in the early morning, when mouflon emerge to gorge themselves on grasses and leaves

ago hunted to extinction. The Cor- before ascending to some remote stews and casseroles of veal, pork hulking, black-bristled beasts rootcrag to lounge in the sun. But despite and kid. our vigilance, they remained tantalisingly out of sight.

Meanwhile the rest of the island's wildlife - ubiquitous and unpredictable - competed for our attention. We saw dark brown cows scrambling up sheer rock faces, nimble as goats, and sheep snoozing among pine needles in the scented forests. Herds of goats and semi-wild pigs wandered freely and congregated on the narrow mountain roads, a hazard for unwary drivers. In Evisa, cows ambled along the main street in the moonlight, in pairs like elderly married couples.

Given this proliferation of animal life, it came as no surprise to learn that traditional Corsican cuisine revolves unashamedly around red meat. Cousins of the creatures that scampered past us on our hikes often ended up on our plates in the evening, in the form of steaks. salamis and home-cured hams,

The most prized local meat comes from an animal that I only ever expected to see on a supper table: wild boar. Yet one day, peering over a grass verge near the village of Marignana, I saw two



ing around in a vast rubbish tip. It may have been one of their final forays for our visit coincided with the boar-hunting season, and consequently the maquis echoed to the crackie of rifles.

It is, perhaps, only natural that the Corsican diet is so unashamedly redblooded. For this is an island famed for vengeance and vendetta, where an insult to family honour could once spark a vicious feud that lasted for decades and claimed scores of lives. It is difficult to conceive of such seething passions among a race of vegetarians.

The last vendetta ended in a village near the capital, Ajaccio, in the Fifties, but scores are still settled swiftly and ruthlessly. During a trip to Bonifacio, the ancient southern port, we learnt of a turf war between rival tourist-boat operators. Tempers overheated, and a man lost an arm. We saw him on the quayside, one sleeve dangling free.

Intriguing though this was, it of year to spot mouflon, he ex-By now the week was almost over. without so much as a sniff of a mouflon. At a rowdy late-night session fuelled by myrtle liqueur, a local speciality, we decided to give it one final shot, to make an excursion to south-eastern Corsica, to a place where - if the gods smiled on us we might just strike gold.

Our destination was the high pastureland of the Bavella Pass, where moufion are said to graze in the shadow of the famous granite pinnacles. The road twisted its vertiginous way up to the village of Zonza before penetrating a thick forest of pine and chestnut. Herds of pigs foraged among the autumn leaves. Ever optimistic, we gazed to left and right, hoping to see a woolly creature peeping out shyly from behind a tree. Once again, we were cruelly disappointed.

console us. It was not a good time give up and stop chasing rainbows.

was a diversion from the main plot. plained. Better to visit later in winter, when the snow drives them to lower altitudes. Or in June, during their brief mating season, when the males compete by charging across valleys at each other, from as far as 30 miles away.

The ram left standing after the collision - often the older, tougher one - gets the girl, according to Jean-Francois. But after the age of seven, the males are no longer fertile. Hence a laughably low reproduction rate that helps explain the rarity of the species - together with the island's large population of foxes, who regard baby moufion as a delicacy.

Our prey could hardly be blamed for keeping a low profile, we decided. With poachers, foxes and impotent rams to contend with, it was not surprising if moution felt ruelly disappointed. Iukewarm about posing for Jean-Francois did his best to photographs. It was time for us to

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through Southern Ferries (0171-491 4968). More details from French Travel Centre, 178 Piccadilly, London W1V 0AL (0891 244123, a premiumrate number)

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facilities include a one sitting restaurant, bar/lounge, small shop, sun deck and swimming pool. The excursions to Burano and Torcello will be made by special launch.

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lockedes transportation, full board on croise, half board at Lubs Maggiore, local guides, UK departure top, all goet tazes. Not lacked at memore.

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Where health and wealth go together

In search of clean living or a looser waistband? Try taking a luxury New Year break at a health farm. By Roger Mills

urkey, mince pies, port and Stilton – and so the rich list goes on. By now the lean, spry, energetic pre-Christmas version of yourself that you liked so much has probably vanished, taking a good bit of your self-esteem with it. Time for a drastic remedy. Time, perhaps, for a visit to one of Britain's growing number of health farms.

If you want to take the hair-shirt route back to health and loose waistbands, your best bet is probably the Tyringham Naturopathic Clinic, just off the M1 near Newport Pagnell. Tyringham gets spectacular dieting results - a Mancunian journalist who weighed in at more than 20 stone shed nearly a third of this during a 15-week stay.

But it is definitely not for the pamper set. Austerity and alternative medicine are the distinctive features of the Tyringham approach. Diet is strictly vegetarian and alcohol, chocolate and even coffee are off limits. Tyringham's alternative therapies, available alongside the more usual exercise facilities, include acupuncture and homoeopathy, and there is also a range of bath therapies you wouldn't even find in the Time Out classifieds section. One of these involves putting your bottom in hot water and your feet in cold, and then doing the reverse 10 minutes later. There's nothing like it for getting your lymph drainage

system moving. For anyone with motivation problems, the solution is the Galway Health Farm set in a deer park overlooking Galway Bay on Ireland's Atlantic coast. Galway isn't just about slimming. Your entire lifestyle is up for grabs and one of the first things that happens is a consulta-



Champneys near Tring - the cream (if one is allowed to use such a term) of health resorts

Massey Partnership

between the two. The Galway treatment is extremely personal, with only eight to 10 guests staying at any

Its other secret weapon lies in the figure of its proprietress, the formi-dable Margaret McNulty. Mrs McN describes herself as a type of "big matron" to her charges, and exresidents testify - with an affectionate awe - to her outstanding powers when it comes to galvanising the sluggish. "Every time you turn round, she's there just behind your shoultion with a psychotherapist to look der," said one. Even just 10 minutes at how you live, what you want out talking to her on the phone to check of your life, and what usually turns a few details left me with a vague out to be the considerable distance sense that I ought to go out for a run.

If all this sounds too much on the include reiki, shiatsu and cranial spartan side, there are some gentler alternatives. "Medical but pampering" was how a health-farm expert described Grayshott Hall, near Hindhead in Surrey. Grayshott boasts two dining-rooms; a light diet one and one offering less waistline-friendly fare for the days when vou can't quite see what the point of all the self-discipline stuff is. Health and dietary consultations are highly rated here, with a team of experts who are older and more experienced than the norm, and the treatments on offer go well beyond the usual beauty and fitness collection. More

osteopathy. This latter treatment is a mysterious, if effective one.

The therapist lays their hands on your head, applying gentle pressure. After 20 minutes or so you begin to feel a warm glow suffusing your body, and any stress you are feeling seems to melt away, leaving you either with a powerful desire to laugh or, more commonly, shed cathartic tears.

Even more luxurious than Grayshott is Champneys near Tring. One look at its car park full of Rollers, Jags and BMWs tells you that this is the cream (if one is that gain doesn't really have to inoff-the-beaten-track therapies allowed to use such a term) of volve pain at all - as long as around

health resorts. Speak to people about Champneys and the agenda shifts subtly from the kinds of thing you'll hear about other health spas. Yes, the treatments and the thera-

pists are all absolutely top notch. Yes, the gym equipment is state of the art. But the real news about Champneys is the sumptuous £6.5m refurbishment and the new diningroom which could compete with any Michelin-starred competitor in town. Being a luxury hotel seems to be at least as important to Champneys as being a health resort and. coming here, you get the impression

£200 a night for a twin room doesn't Henlow Grange is unquestionably a very good bet. present problems, that is.

Luxurious, pricey Champneys is one extreme, but what if you want to have a laugh while doing yourself some good? Topping the fun farm category comes Henlow Grange near Hitchin, which has become increasingly popular with groups, notably hen parties, in recent years. Activity is the order of the day here, with group aerobics high on the list

This is definitely not the place to go if meditative unwinding is what for the first time through the service you are after, but if you want to do your suffering in good company, and a £10 voucher for subsequent and with a broad grin on your face, reservations

For further information or to make a booking for the Tyringham Naturopathic Clinic, Galway Health Farm, Grayshott Hall, Champneys and Henlow Grange, contact Healthy Venues on 01203 690300. This is a free health-farm advisory and reservations service working with 18 residential health farms and 80 spa venues in Britain and Ireland. Anyone making a reservation will receive a £5 discount noucher.

SOMETHING TO DECLARE

NEWS FROM THE TRAVEL WORLD

Acertainly be the best January yet for bargain hunters. At least that is, for fivers from Stansted Ryanair (0541 569 569) has just announced a "two-

mean travel between the UK and Dublin for as little as £40 for two. And Go (0845 60 54321) has fares of £70 return to Rome, Lisbon and Bologna, £60 to

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> Ten New Year's resolutions: Here's a selection of dos and don'ts that the Foreign Office would like to recommend. Cyprus: Don't try to make

> fraudulent claims on your insurance policy. The police prosecute tourists for this offence and prison sentences and heavy fines have been imposed. Eastern Europe: Don't attempt to change money on the

street - you are liable to be robbed. Egypt: Do respect local laws and customs Women should dress modestly. Drunkenness

can lead to arrest. France: Don't let go of your luggage at French airports. Security staff may remove and destroy unattended luggage. No ensation can be claimed

for destroyed property. Greece: Don't, if you are a charter flight passenger, leave Greece on overnight trips to neighbouring countries. This will invalidate the charter ticket back to the UK and you will have to purchase a full-price ticket on a scheduled flight.

India: Do book a hotel room

prior to arrival. Tourists are advised to book at least their first night's accommodation before arrival in India. Those without somewhere to stay can fall prey to rogue taxi and rickshaw drivers who offer to take them to a hotel. Unwitting victims

have been attacked and robbed

Singapore: Don't get involved with drugs. Drug abuse carries the heaviest penalties. The death penalty is mandatory for some offences. Persons using prescribed drugs are therefore advised to carry a prescription or an explanatory note from their doctor or hospital.

Thailand: Don't use a guide who approaches you on the street, even if he appears to have genuine credentials. He will invariably be a tout.

Turkey: Do respect local laws and customs. It is an offence to insult the Turkish nation or the national flag, or to deface or tear up currency. Drunkenness is no excuse (and may be an offence in itself).

United States: Don't leave parking or other fines unpaid. An arrest warrant could spoil your next visit to the US and being arrested in the US can be a very degrading experience.

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THE WEEKEND REVIEW

n old friend has been banging on to me about the resort of Gressoney for almost two years. Why haven't I been there? Don't I know how good the off-piste skiing is in the Monte Rosa area, particularly in the huge bowl of the Alagna valley? Wouldn't I enjoy staying in an Italian village with great food and friendly locals? I haven't made it to Gressoney yet, but now I have no excuse. Because my friend - his name is John Kavanagh - has set up a holiday company with a business partner to organise besooke trips to the resort. He reckons that if he likes it, other skiers will, too.

Taking a friendly interest in John's venture, called Gressonly, I spoke to a handful of small, specialist ski operators to discover the potential and the pitfalls of launching such a company. Jim Thorpe's views on the subject were not encouraging. His Snowman company organises trips to the 24-bedroom hotel he has owned for a dozen years in St Gervais, near (and linked with) the Mégève ski area in France. "It is not easy to make a profit out of skiing," he says, adding that "there are a number of businesses that are bedevilled by enthusiasts, and skiing is definitely one of them."

Yet surprisingly few of my sample companies were born out of sheer enthusiasm, nor inspired by the notion that what we want, other skiers will also want; one was even started by a man who had never skied. But Ski Familie, which for eight years has provided packages to Les Gets for skiers with young children. proved an exception. Steve Sharp and his wife, who run the company, were keen skiers; but "then the kids came along, and we went through the routine of trying to combine skiing with small children - one year we took the mother-in-law, the next we tried using a local creche".

A better solution, they figured, would be a ski operator offering wellequipped chalets, day-care for smaller children and skiing tuition for the four- and five-year-olds: hence Ski Famille. Sharp started the compaby with the confidence that "we knew what parents wanted. For example, rather than lugging packs of nappies and a steriliser with them, they just wanted to take a couple of feeding bottles along."

The fact that he and his business partner run a news agency in Cambridge enabled him to survive. "The

, van



Care for children can be a problem on a skiing holiday - unless you go with a specialist company

Break into snow business

Setting up a specialist ski company is far from child's play, as **Stephen Wood** finds out

Famille now has four full-time members of staff, and will take 1,500 people skiing this year; but 90 per cent of its capacity is already sold.

For a specialist operator, finding a niche is essential to success. Ski Famille did that; Classic Ski was lucky enough to have a ready-made market. Classic Ski took over a first two years were difficult. But market from the more explicitly then we started to make headway, named Over The Hill, which ceased

letting demand push us along." Ski offers "skiing holidays for the mature adventurer": the clients it takes to Flaine and three other French resorts are, on average, in their late 50s, "although we had a 79-year-old last year, and we've had several beginners in their 70s," says the company's owner, David Griffiths.

Employing the same instructor as Over The Hill - and thus forming a bridge with the defunct company's clients - Griffiths set up a proand ultimately to have the luxury of operating four years ago, and it gramme designed for older skiers,

(Classic Ski does not operate in February, when the slopes and the ski instructors are particularly busy), offering small-group tuition, and booking clients on to hassle-free midweek scheduled flights. After three years, the programme now attracts 180 skiers per season, having started from a very low base.

If spotting a market is essential, getting through the first season is be inaccurate - by a factor of 0.25 per critical. Louis Fernandes knows cent. "We were £77 out," says Fer-

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ket JL Catered Chalets company which he launched last year - with a stunning brochure - ceased trading even before the season began. Despite a year of planning (and three years' experience in the ski business). Fernandes' company folded in November when his bank withdrew a £58,000 overdraft facility. JL's business plan had proved to

using quiet resorts in quiet periods this better than most: the up-mar-nandes, "and the bank decided that consumer confidence did not war-

rant their investing in the company." In the light of his experience, Fernandes offered the following advice for anyone wanting to start a specialist ski company. "Make sure you have enough backing to cover the first year's turnover, then plan, plan and plan - down to every last detail. Be wary of advertising salesmen: just because they're offering their best deal doesn't mean that it's a MasterSki 0181-942 9442

good deal. And you've got to understand your market, because the fact that "you think something's a good idea doesn't mean that everyone else will agree."

Did MasterSki, the most successful of all the companies to which I spoke, abide by such rules? Hardly it was started by a man who could not ski and did not know the market (though he had the wit to take advice from an expert); and almost the first thing the company did was to advertise. For 15 years, MasterSki has been running skiing packages for Christians, and it consistently sells 1,500 or more holidays a year. Its origins lie in a reader offer placed in the Christian magazines published by Bob Fleming, who runs MasterSki and MasterSun with his wife, Jill, plus a full-time staff of 25. "We quite quickly realised that the holidays were a much better business than publishing the magazines," ne says.

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MasterSki's holidays include a daily meeting, for worship and Bible study: unlike the company's summer holidays, which (in Fleming's words) attract everyone "from raging charismatics to high Anglicans". the skiing groups are more homogenous, in age and spiritual out-look. Nevertheless, Fleming advises the Christian leaders on each holiday not to be controversial, "and don't ask them to dance".

All the holidays are based in the same hotel (in Tignes) and chalet (in Méribel), but Fleming believes that the resorts are big enough to provide continuing interest for his company's very loyal clientele.

The specialist companies do not seem to share the big operators' preoccupation with offering customers new destinations. For Jim Thorpe of Snowman, having a single resort is like having a holiday home: "It doesn't suit everyone, but some people like returning to favourite bars or runs, and being with people who remember them from last year." That's good news for my friend, John - as is the market analysis of a consultant used by MasterSki. who reckons that of all specialist ski companies, one-third make a profit, onethird want to enjoy it and don't worry too much about profits, while onethird merely make a loss. If Gressonly can get into the "enjoyment" band. John will be more than happy.

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THREE ACES doesn't make for a good hand when you are flying. The winner of of tardiness is the Colombian airline Aces. Of the 78 flights I took in 1998, the three with Aces averaged two hours late. But at least these planes got me between Bogota and

Medellin eventually. There are two broad schools of thought about aviation; one holds that flying remains a miracle and we should be grateful to complete our journeys safely; the other maintains that by the end of the 20th century, travellers ought to be able to rely on the schedules with which airlines entice us to fly. I incline to the latter view, which is why this statistically insignificant

survey is an annual event. Three of the tardiest four airlines in 1998 are based in Latin America: only 10 minutes more punctual than Aces, on average, was Cubana, which escaped last place in the 1997 survey on a technicality (at least two flights must be taken on an airline during the year for it



SIMON CALDER

'In Tampa I managed to get from buying a ticket to airborne in 12 minutes flat'

to register). Avianca of Colombia averaged 45 minutes late; it also had the slowest return of baggage,

Debonair was way behind British Airways itself

75 minutes, but this was not the fault of the airline - all the luggage from the flight arriving at Heathrow from Bogota is taken to a corner of the airport to be examined by customs Among British airlines,

with an average delay of 95 minutes. Meanwhile, the year's new airline. Go, a nofrills offshoot of British Airways, managed to average five minutes early.

of tickets: 12, BA's punctuality improved from five this year - a result. perhaps, of its £35m campaign to improve timekeeping. Better still. Iberia managed to improve on its creditable on-time performance for 1997; in the past year the Spanish airline averaged two minutes early.

sold me the largest number

Late - but better than the average 21 minute delay - were (in declining order) Lufthansa, Thai, Alitalia, Continental, Cathay Pacific, KLM UK and Qantas. Worse than average were Tunis Air. Air France, easyJet, Olympic of Greece and Virgin Express. These last two airlines actually provided more stress than all the rest put together, and the average delay on each of 30 minutes conceals a catalogue of

chronic inexactitude. The reason is that in a possibly misguided spirit of generosity, if for some reason I failed to travel on a flight altogether, it does not register in the survey. On Olympic, I hung around at

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hours before a flight was cancelled, and the next ervice gorme to m destination 14 hours later than originally scheduled. Lufthansa and Cubana both ejected me from flights (fortunately in advance) because they had overbooked. With British Airways and Virgin Express, I voluntarily abandoned flights when the length of the delay made the journey futile.

the airport for a couple of

Finally, a few special awards: the best groundhandling was by Aer Lingus at Heathrow, which managed to cope with both Virgin Express and Olympic Airways with aplomb and good humour. Fastest formalities were on Continental; in Tampa, I managed to get from buying a ticket to airborne in 12 minutes flat. And the "free freight" award goes to Virgin Express, which on no fewer than three occasions sent my bicycle as luggage on flights on which I was not travelling; the bike consequently travelled rather further than I did last year.

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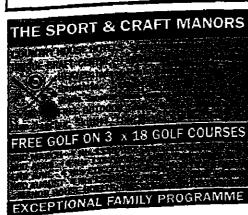
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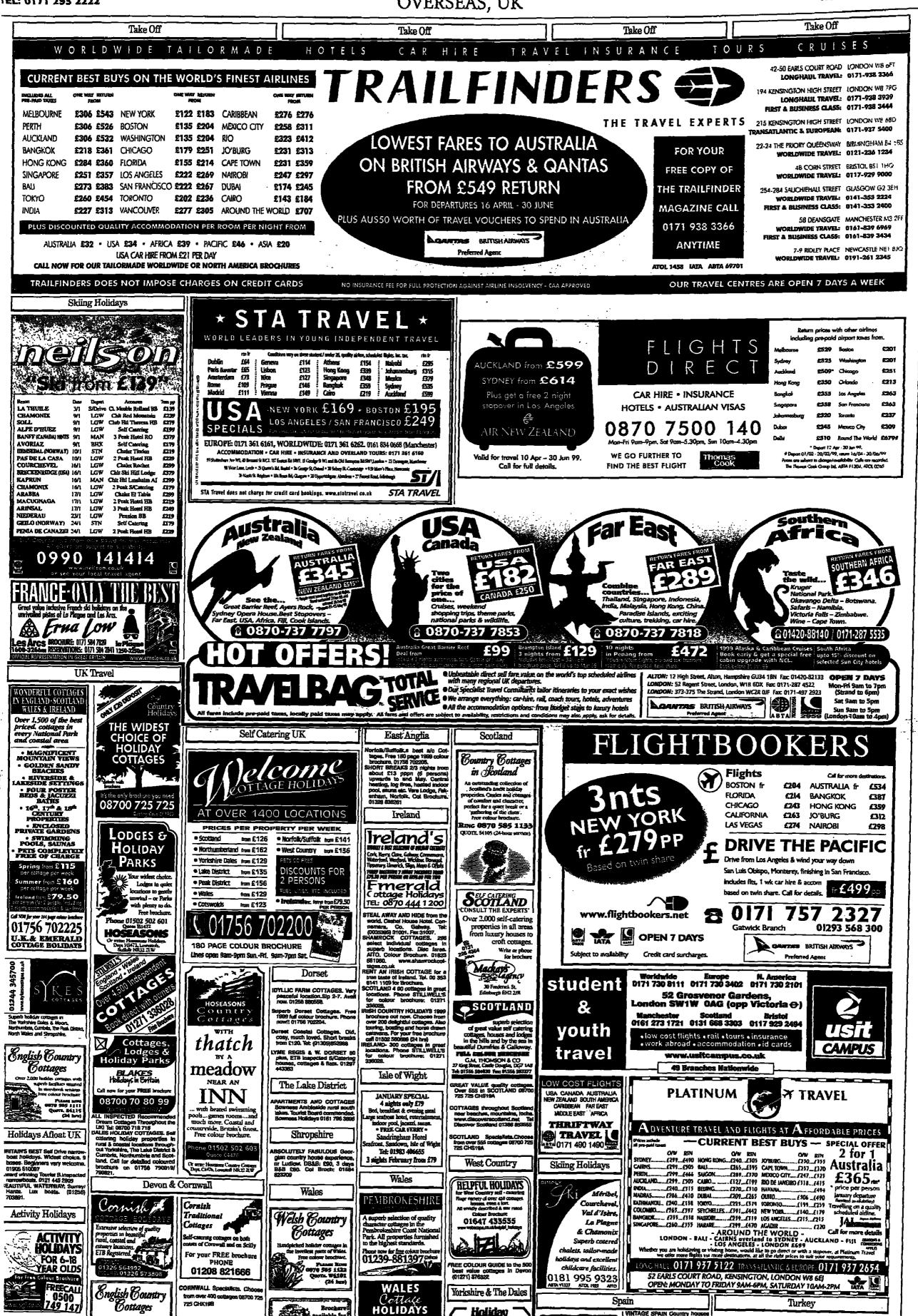
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"Build a bridge to heaven

• Gandhi was born near Porbandar's boatyard, where Kenneth Wilson met a hundred eager pilgrims

oning, the western borders of the Indian state of Gujarat might seem benighted. The flat land of scrub and salt marsh has a single natural resource - wind. According to the season it blows warm and wet from the sea, or scorching and dry from the desert.

Yet the town of Porbandar here is a place of special significance: in 1869 it was the birthplace of the future Mahatma Gandhi, His house is now a minor pilgrimage site. Set on an ordinary street, it would be indistinguishable from all the others, except that an admirer bought up the surrounding square and demolished the other houses to build

Today, the house itself is empty. There is only a picture of the great man, and another of his parents, and a swastika set into the floor in the front room to mark the exact point of Gandhi's entry into the world. This isn't "heritage" - there is no

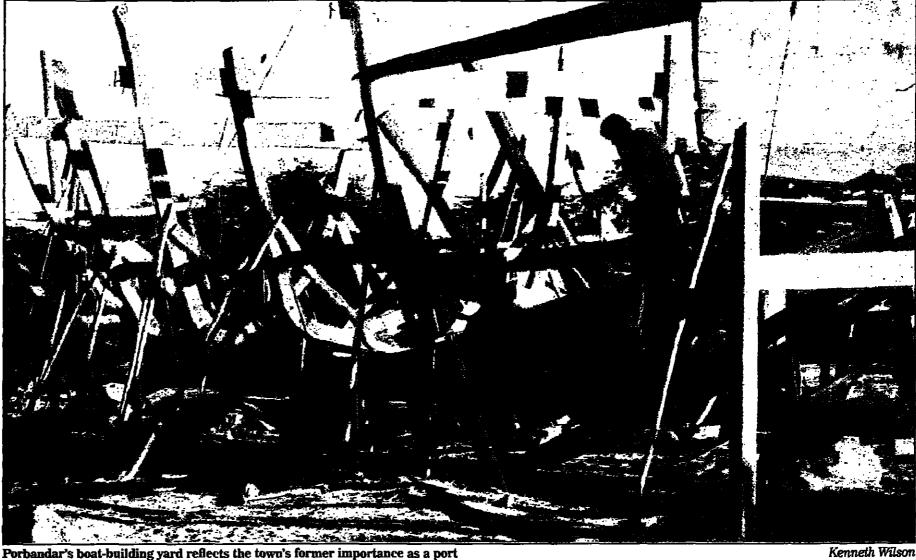
sense of wanting to recreate the great man's dwelling. All that is important is to have it clearly identified as holy.

At the top of the house is a cupboard where, you are told, the young Gandhi with big ears sat down earnestly to study.

Porbandar itself is a fishing town. It has two ports, adjacent to each other. In one, a thousand fishing boats, all built to the same ancient design, lie in appearance of idleness. Here and there a few boxes of undersized silver fish were unloaded as I paused to watch. Gutting them is a smelly process; they are then spread out to dry.

The other port, surrounded by military security - though it was the bureaucracy that was more effective at keeping us out - contained two ships. There was a magnificent coal ship of enormous proportions, and a gleaming white gunboat - and vast, empty warehouses.

It is a very long time since Porbandar was a major point of entry for trade with Arabia, but presum-



ably there is still a certain amount of smuggling along the old routes. Back in town, we passed a row of

decrepit taxis - though each had its sleeping driver - and drove on to the Sudamji temple, where I witnessed a strange sight: one hundred Rajastani pilgrims who had each paid £50 for a month's pilgrimage in an old bus. Their merit was being determined by the number of holy sites and offerings they could chalk up, so they had set themselves a cruel pace. After a week they were already

house, but only touched the feet of his image in the adjoining temple before hurrying off again. For them, Gandhi is a figure of little value. They were more interested in Lord Krishna, whose legends fill this area.

The Sudamaji temple has a miniature stone maze, its alleyways just large enough to put one foot in front of the other. Like bees on a honeycomb, the hundred pilgrims iostled their way around the maze, periodically falling over in their haste. Their purjari urged them on

They did not go into Gandhi's shouting "Jaldi! Jaldi!" - "quickly. quickly". I asked him what it was all about, but he would not be interrupted. Instead, he thrust a plan into Porbandar reverted to its quiet my hands and I tried to decipher the misprinted text. Ah, this was not a maze but a complicated mandala whose form allowed us to perform 8.4 million parikramas, or sacred cir-

> route round the central swastika. The same number of sins could be forgiven thuswise, it proclaimed. And as quickly as they had de-

> cumambulations, as we traced its

to Dwarka, along the coast, a holier town where limitless merit can be acquired by those who know how.

and normal demeanour, an Indian town of no apparent distinction, where no drama occurs worse than a bullock and a bicycle trying unsuccessfully to occupy the same piece of road at the same time. Only under its surface seethes this extraordinary spiritual secret that out of this narrow and provincial backwater emerged a man who scended, the pilgrims were gone. Off went on to change a continent.

You need time and patience to reach Porbandar. From Britain. the most convenient gateway is Mumbai (Bombay), from where Porbandar can be reach in 24 hours by train via Ahmedabad, the Gujarat state capital. Flights to Mumbai are a good buy at the moment. Quest Worldwide (0181-547 3322) has a return fare of £315 return, including taxes, on Swissair from Heathrow, if you book before 15 January. Trailfinders (0171-938 3366) has seats on Lufthansa for £330, also including taxes

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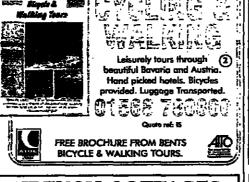
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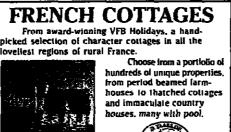
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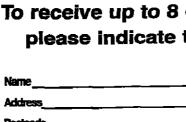
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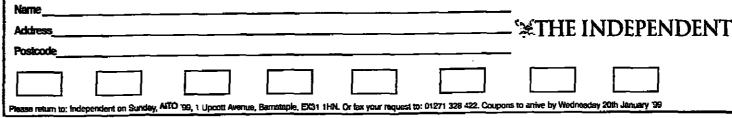
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NEW FILMS

THE ACID HOUSE (18) Director: Paul McGuigan

Starring: Stephen McCole, Kevin McKidd, Ewen Bremner

A trio of interrelated shorts culled from the stories of Irvine Welsh, The Acid House plays out in the down-and-dirty landscape of inner-city Edinburgh. Director Paul McGuigan (who trained as a stills photographer) turns it into a bit of a triumph; adapting his style well to the shifting landscape of Welsh's tales and rustling up a film that's less poised and populist than Trainspotting, but more earthy, edgy and intense, too. A cracker, all told. Countrywide

STAR TREK: INSURRECTION (PG)

Director: Jonathan Frakes Starring: Patrick Stewart

A belated Christmas gift for Trekkies the land over, Insurrection hits the cinemas stuffed with in-the-know gags, ribboned and bowed with reliably cheesy artdesign and effects work, and wrapped up in rather more comball romance than we're used to. The yarn is nominally about Patrick Stewart's do-gooding captain tangling with villainous F Murray Abraham. who's hatched a scheme to take over an Eden-like planet of perpetual youth. Trouble is that the whole Stor Trek phenomenon is less a story now than a

series of self-reflective gestures. Insurrection takes no real risks with the format; it simply navel-gazes for a while, gives floorspace to the regulars and idles its way along to the climactic explosion. Countrywide

SITCOM (18)

Director: François Ozon

Starring: Evelyne Dandry, François Marthouret, Marina de Van

Someone ought to introduce François Ozon to a good editor. The debuting French film-maker is clearly a man of talent, but in Sitcom he lets his ideas maraud madly off the leash. This scattergun satire on middle-class mores takes abundant pleasure in dismantling a standard nuclear family (mère, père, fils et fille) - setting a rat loose in the home and interjecting an implicitly queer and subversive vein to the increasingly fraught shenanigans. The result is sharp, funny and savage one moment, over-heated and indulgent the next, and arrives heavily touched by the influence of Luis Bunuel and John Waters. Ozon's still, formal framing strikes a nice balance with the craziness contained inside. Countrywide

THE INDEPENDENT RECOMMENDS

THE THREE BEST FILMS

The Truman Show (15)

Peter Weir's ingenious and unsettling fantasy (below) is, in the end, an escape movie - in the case of Jim Carrey's Truman Burbank, it's breaking out of

the round-the-clock TV docusoap that is his own life. The Dream Life of

Angels (18) Erick Zonca's remarkable début draws its strength from the contrasting personalities of Isa (Elodie Bouchez) and Marie (Natacha Regnier), whose friend-ship comes alive amid the drab environs of Lille.

Antz (PG)

computer-animated This comedy stars Woody Allen as a worker ant who becomes an unlikely opponent of the colony's totalitarian regime. Good fun, and Allen's best work in a while. With Sharon Stone.

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THE THREE BEST PLAYS

Angela Carter Cinderella Lyric, Hammersmith This production (right) is a feast of inspired silliness and visual magic. The

finest mice on the West End stage and heaps more besides. To 9 Jan Present Laughter

West Yorkshire Playhouse Ian McKellen dons the Noël Coward dressing-gown and gives a scintillating high-energy performance in this enjoyable but unevenly cast production. To 22 Jan

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THE APPLE (SIB) (PG)

Seventeen-year-old Samirah Makhmalbaf's precocious début stages a true-life recreation of the fortunes of Iran's Naderi sisters. A luminous missive from a burgeoning Iranian film scene.

BABE: PIG IN THE CITY (U)

In the follow-up to Babe, the hapless sheep-pig finds himself looking after strays in the city. Knockabout comedy is kept to a minimum.

Out of jail after serving time for GBH, oldest "boy" Brett Sprague (David Wenham) moves back into his mum's drab suburban home. The Boys is potent, predatory stuff.

DANCING AT LUGHNASA (PG)

This Ireland-set saga is given backbone by Meryl Streep's regal performance.

THE DREAM LIFE OF ANGELS (18) See The Independent Recommends, above.

Shekhar Kapur neglects the opportunities for fun in

THE EXORCIST (25TH ANNIVERSARY

RERELEASE) (18)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (U)

A freshly restored print of Frank Capra's classic gives audiences a rare chance to see the film's fine photography on the big screen.

BARRELS (18)

Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels is peopled by thugs, both amateur and professional. Young Eddy MY NAME IS JOE (15) falls into the former category; but Hatchet Harry, to Ken Loach's social-realist drama tells the tale of Joe and melancholy heart and Katharine Hepburn's whom he owes £500,000, is a dangerous old-school pro. (Peter Mullan), a recovering alcoholic torn between

THE MASK OF ZORRO (PG)

19th-century California in the company of Antonio Banderas's authentically Hispanic do-gooder.

THE MIGHTY (PG)

Peter Chelsom's The Mighty treads through familiar coming-of age country with its tale of two outcast kids in a storybook Cincinnati. Stolid and a tad predictable, though there's a glimmer of soul showing through.

MULAN (T)

Disney's animated feature about a girl who goes into battle to save her father from certain death has got it all: a pro-active heroine who does not want to tend a man or pet woodland animals; a strong father/ daughter relationship; honour and nobility; and, of course, cross-dressing.

his old life (drugs, crime) and his new (a romance with This gaudy swashbuckler gallops full-speed through Louise Goodall's middle-class health visitor).

THE NEGOTIATOR (15)

Samuel L Jackson and Kevin Spacey go head to head in Gray's thrilling drama. The script has a predilection for hink-headed swearing which sounds uneasy in the mouths of such articulate, rhetorical performers.

OUT OF SIGHT (15)

George Clooney plays the law-breaking hero as a down-and-dirty version of Cary Grant, and turns in e best performance of his career so far.

THE PARENT TRAP (PG)

A spry, cross-cultural caper starring Lindsay Lohan THE TRUMAN SHOW (15) as the separated-at-birth twin sisters who are See The Independent Recommends, above. determined to get their parents back together.

THE PHILADELPHIA STORY (U) Sublime cinema. George Cukor's movie has a strange

unsatisfied heiress sheds real tears.

THE PRINCE OF EGYPT (U)

Jeffrey Katzenberg envisaged this cartoon life of Moses. "painted by Claude Monet and photographed by David Lean". The end result is The Ten Commandments by way of Joseph and his Technicolor Dreamcoat.

John Frankenheimer's 40 years as a feature director lend an air of knackered resignation to this tired espionage thriller about a gang of mercenaries.

RUSH HOUR (15)

Jackie Chan and Chris Tucker star in this hit-andmiss thriller.

WHAT DREAMS MAY COME (15)

Along comes Christmas and out comes What Dreams May Come. Robin Williams perfects a lopsided simper as the dead chappie who goes to a cod-Impressionist heaven before jetting off to rescue his suicide bride.

CINEMA COUNTRYWIDE

ODEON (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); What Dreams May Come (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Enemy of the State (15); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U)

VIRGIN (0541-202050); What Dreams May Come (15): The Acid House (18): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Mighty (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Babe: Pig in the City (U); Small Soldiers (PG): Antz (PG): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Enemy of the State (15)

MAC (0121-440 3838); Antz (PG); The

rness (15): Buffalo 66 (15) **ODEON** (08705-050007): The Mask of Zorro (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): En-emy of the State (15): Blade (18): The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18): Rush Hour (15): The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U): Out of Sight (15): What Dreams May Come (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Dr Dolittle (PG); Antz (PG)

ARCADIAN CENTRE VIRGIN (0541-555177); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Ronin (15): Blade (18): The Parent Trap (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): What Dreams May Come (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG); Enemy of the State (15)

GREAT PARK VIRGIN (0121 4530465): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Small Sol-diers (PG); Antz (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Prince of Egypt (U): Enemy of the State (15): Out of Sight (15): What Dreams May Come (15): Blade (18): Mu-Ian (U): The Mighty (PG): The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Negotiator (15): The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City

BLACKPOOL ABC CHURCH STREET (01253-24233): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Rush Hour (15): The Prince of Egypt (U); The Parent Trap (PG): Lock, Stock & Iwo

ODEON (050007): The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); What Dreams May Come (15): Enemy of the State (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U): Small Soldiers (PG)

WIRGIN MEGAPLEX (Valley Centertainment) (0870-907 0714); What Dreams May Come (15); Antz (PG); Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG); Lock, Stock & Thro Smoking Barrels (18); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Blade (18); Gharrels (18); Charles (18); wali Baharwali (PG); The Mighty (PG): Babe: Pig In the City (U); Out of Sight (15); Small Soldiers (PG); Mulan (U); Rush Hour (15)

WARNER VILLAGE (01204-669988): The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: In-surrection (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Mighty (PG): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Rush Hour 1151: Antz (PG): What Dreams May Come (15); Mulan (U); Enemy of the State (15):

UCI (0990-888990): The Mask of Zorro (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Out of Sight (15): Air Bud (U): Rush Hour (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Acid House (18): The Parent Trap (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): What Dreams May Come (15): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG): Mulan (U): Enemy of the State (15); My Name is Joe (15): Antz (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); The Parent Trap (PG); Mr Magoo (PG); Star Trek; Insurrection (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U): Enemy

WARNER VILLAGE (01302-371371); What Dreams May Come (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection or Zorro (PG); Star Irek: Insurrection (PG); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); Enemy of the State (15); Antz (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Small Soldiers (PG); Mulan (U)

ABC (01382-226865); The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U)

ODEON (08705-050007): The Parent Trap (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Space Jam (U): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15): Enemy of the State (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); What Dreams May Come (15); The Prince of Egypt (U)

ABC FILM CENTRE (0131-228 1638); Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Parent Trap (PG): Enemy of the State (15): The Prince of Egypt (U): Star Trek: Insur-

rection (PG) ABC WESTER HAILES (0131-442 2200): The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Small Soldiers (PG); The the City (U); Small Soldiers (PG); The Acid House (18); The Mighty (PG): Mulan (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Out of Sight (15); What Dreams May Come (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Antz (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Rush Hour (15)

CAMEO (0131-228 4141); Deconstructing Harry (18); The Acid House (18); Out of Sight (15); The Mighty (PG); Eraserhead (18); Short Cuts (18); My Name is Joe (15); Clerks (18)

DOMINION (0131-447 4771); Enemy of the State (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Antz (PG); The Par-ent Trap (PG): Elizabeth (15); What ms May Come (15)

ODEON (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Prince of Egypt (U): The Acid House (18): Star Irek: Insurrection (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): Enemy of the State (15): of the State (15)

UCI (0990-888990); Mulan (U); Star Treic the Motion Picture (U); The Acid House (18): What Dreams May Come (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Enemy of the State (15): The Mighty (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): The Negotiator (15): Baber Pig in the City (U): Antz (PG): Rush Hour (15): Alr Bud (U): Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC): The Mask of Zorro (PG)

UCI 11 METROCENTRE (0990-888990): What Dreams May Come (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Negotiator (15); Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC); Rush Hour (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Antz (PG); Blade (18); Enemy of the State (15); Out of Sight (15); Mulan (U);

ABC CLARKSTON ROAD (0141-637) 2641); The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe; Plg in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); What Dreams

May Come (15); The Parent Trap (PG) ABC SAUCHIEHALL ST (0141-332 1592); What Dreams May Come (15); Romin (15): The Prince of Egypt (U); Out of Sight (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Small Soldiers (PG): Babe: Pig in

ODEON (08705-050007); Blade (18); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG); My Name is Joe (15); Rush Hour (15); The Parent Trap (PG); What Dreams May Come (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U)

SPRINGFIELD QUAY (08705-050007): The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): Little Voice (15); Rush Hour (15); What Dreams May Come (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG): My Name is Joe (15); The Add House (18); Blade (18): Engrape of the Sected (18); Out Blade (18): Enemy of the State (15); Out of Sight (15); The Negotiator (15); The Mighty (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U)

ELIZABETH (15)

a story of independence triumphing over cruelty.

Pulled into the light, Friedkin's seminal horror is still efficiently terrifying.

LOCK, STOCK AND TWO SMOKING

ODEON (08705-050007); Star Trek: In-

UCI (0990-888990); The Parent Trap (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Mulan (U); Blade (18);

Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Mask of

Zorro (PG): Enemy of the State (15);

Rush Hour (15): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai

(PG); What Dreams May Come (15); Out

UCI 8 ST ANDREWS QUAY (0990-

888990); Mulan (U); The Mask of Zor-ro (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Out

EDEN COURT THEATRE (01463-

234274): Secret Défense (PG): Still Crazy (15): Antz (PG): Poison (18)

CALEDONIAN CINEMAS (01463-233302); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); The Parent Trap

(PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The

WARNER VILLAGE (01463-711147): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Antz (PG); Star Trek: In-

surrection (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); What Dreams May Come (15); Mulan (U); Enemy of the

ODEON (08705-050007); The Magic

Sword: Quest for Camelot (U): Godzil

Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Antz (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Rush Hour (15); Dr Dollttle (PG); MouseHunt (PG); Paulie (U)

ODEON KILMARNOCK (08705-050007);

Mulan (U): Enemy of the State (15):

Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Mask of Zorro (PG): The Acid House (18): Paulie

(U); Out of Sight (15); What Dreams May Come (15); Dr Dolittle (PG); Rush Hour

(15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Small

ABC (0113-245 2665); Antz (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Small Soldiers (PG): Lock. Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): Out of

Sight (15): The Truman Show (PG)

HYDE PARK (0113-275 2045);

Hana-Bi (18): Annie Hall (PG): Eve's Bay-

ODEON (08705-050007); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG);

The Prince of Egypt (U); Enemy of the

State (15); Rush Hour (15); The Parent

idiers (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); The

State (15); The Parent Trap (PG)

of Sight (15); Antz (PG)

Dreams May Come (15)

Prince of Egypt (U)

KILMARNOCK

Prince of Egypt (U)

WARNER VILLAGE (0113-279 9855); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG): The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection ABC (01472-342878); Star Trek; tnsurrection (PG); The Adventures of Phnocchio (U): Enemy of the State (15): The Prince of Egypt (U): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Parent Trap (PG): What Dreams May Come (15) (PG): What Dreams May Come (15); Enemy of the State (15); Blade (18); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG): Mulan

(U); Antz (PG)

Adventure (U); The Prince of Egypt (U);
Babe: Pig in the City (U); Rush Hour (15);
The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the
State (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG) ODEON FREEMENS PARK (08705-050007); The Prince of Egypt (U); Blade (18); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Out of Sight (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Godzilla (PG): Barney's Great Adventure (U); Enemy of the State (15); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Lost in Space (PG); Dr Dolit-

(U); Rush Hour (15); The Prince of Egypt

tie (PG): What Dreams May Come (15); Antz (PG); The Mighry (PG) WARNER VILLAGE (0116-282 7733): Mulan (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U): The Parent Trap (PG); Small Soldiers (O): The Farch (Fa): Shall South as (PG): Enemy of the State (15): What Dreams May Come (15): Star Trek: In-surrection (PG): Rush Hour (15); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG): Antz

ODEON (08705-050007); Blade (18); Star Trek; Insurrection (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Antz (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Dr Dollttle (PG); George of the Jungle (U); The (PG); Blade (18) Prince of Egypt (U); Out of Sight (15); Enemy of the State (15); What Dreams LIVERPOOL ABC ALLERTON (0151-724 3550): May Come (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Godzilla (PG); Saving Private Ryan Babe: Plg in the City (U): Dr Dollttle (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007): The Parent Trap (PG): What Dreams May Come (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Star Trek: In-surrection (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Prince of Egypt (U): Enemy of the State (15)

WOOLTON PICTURE HOUSE (0151-428) 1919); Babe: Pig in the City (U)

of Sight (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek: In-surrection (PG); Antx (PG); Doll Sajake Rakhna (NC); Rush Hour (15); The Par-ent Trap (PG); The Negotlator (15); What ODEON (08705-050007); Enemy of the State (15): What Dreams May Come (15): What Insurrection (PG): Out of Sight (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Rush Hour (15): The Parent Trap (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Prince of

> UCI TRAFFORD CENTRE (0870-603 4567): Ihoole Bole Kaunia Kaate (NC); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Mighty (PG); Ruchat (NC); Dil To Pagal Hai (PG); Rush Hour (15): The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); There's Something About Mary (15); Out of Sight (15); Elizabeth (15); Enemy of the State (15); Blade (18); Antz (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Negotiator (15); Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG); Wajood (PG); Small Soldiers (PG); Pardeshi Babu (NC); What Dreams May Come (15); Mulan (U); Lock, Spock & Two 4567); Jhoole Bole Kauma Kaate (NC); Sav-Come (15); Mulan (Ú); Lock, Stock & Two

Come (15); Saving Private Ryan (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); There's Something About Mary (15); State (15); Inglession (PG); Apre (PG). ODEON (08705-050007); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG): Enemy of the State (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15)

> ODEON (08705-050007); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15); Babe; Pig In the City (U): Enemy of the State (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Emma (U): Star Trek: In-surrection (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U)

> WARNER VILLAGE (0191-221 0222); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Mulan (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Air Bud (U); Rush Hour (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG): Small Soldiers (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Out of Sight (15); What Dreams May Come (15): Ronin (15); Babe: Pig in the City

> NORTHAMPTON THE FORUM (01604-401006); Topless Women Talk About Their Lives (NC); The orcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18);

VIRGIN (0541 560564); Enemy of the State (15); What Dreams May Come (15): The Parent Trap (PG); The Mighty (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): The Mask of Zorro (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Blade (18):

NOTTINGHAM ABC (0115-947 5260); Out of Sight (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Prince of Egypt (U); Antz (PG); The Negotia-tor (15); The Exorcist (25th Anniversary Rerelease) (18); Small Soldiers (PG)

Zorro (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Rush Hour (15): What Dreams May Come (15): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): Enemy of the State (15); The Prince of Egypt (U) ROXY (0161-683 4759); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Out of Sight (15); Babe: Pig

Enemy of the State (15): Rush Hour (15);

Antz (PG); What Dreams May Come (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Mighty (PG)

in the City (U); The Pr

UCI 10 (0990-888990): Enemy of the State (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG): Mulan (U): Out of Sight (15): The Prince of Egypt (U); Jhoole Bole Kauwa Kaate (NC): Rush Hour (15): What Dreams May Come (15): The Parent Trap (PG): Small Soldi (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): The Soldler (Asian Film) (NC); The Negotiator (15); Antz (PG): The Mask of

WARNER VILLAGE (01772-881100); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG); What Dreams May Come (15); The Parent Trap (PG); Mulan (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Prince of Egypt (U); Enemy of the State (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG): Small

REDDITCH ABC (01527-62572): Babe: Pig in the City (U); Dr Dollttle (PG); The Negotiator (15); Rush Hour (15); The Prince of Egypt (U): 101 Dalmatians (U); The Parent Trap (PG)

ROCHDALE
ABC (01706-719933): Dr Dolittle (PG):
Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG):
The Prince of Egypt (U): Antz (PG): Lock,
Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18); Small
Soldiers (PG): The Negotiator (15): Out
of Sight (15): Rush Hour (15); The
Parent Trap (PG): The Mask of Zorro
(PG): Ronin (15): Mulan (U): Blade (18):
Babe: Pig in the City (U)

SALFORD QUAYS SALFORD CUAYS
VIRGIN (0541-555157); Enemy of the
State (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The
Mask of Zorro (PG); The Mighty (PG);
Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): The
Parent Trap (PG); What Dreams May
Come (15); The Prince of Egypt (U);
Blade (18); Rush Hour (15); Antz (PG)

SHEFFIELD ODEON (08705-050007); Out of Sight (15); Mulan (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Antz (PG); Star freic insurrection (PG); Ronin (15); What Dreams May Come (15): 101 Dalmatians (U): Small Soldiers (PG): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Enemy of the State (15): Rish Hour (15): The Prince of Egypt (U):

UCI CRYSTAL PEAKS 10 (0990-888990); Mulan (U); Blade (18); Antz (PG); Ene-my of the State (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); Small Soldlers (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Mehndi (PG); The Par-ent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); What Dreams May Come (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): Saving Private Ryan (15)

VIRGIN (Dom Valley) (0114-242 1237); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Lock, Stock & Two Smoking Barrels (18): The Truman Show (PG): Kuch Kuch Hota Hai (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); What Dreams May Come (15); Blade (18); The Horse Whisperer (PG): Small Soldiers (PG); Antz (PG); Ronin (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe; Pig in the City (U); Rush Hour (15); The Mighty (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the State (15); The Mighty (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the State (15); The Mighty (PG); Th (15); Mulan (U); Saving Private Ryan (15); There's Something About Mary (15); Out of Sight (15); The NegotlaWARNER VILLAGE (0114-256 9222); WREXHAM
The Parent Trap (PG); The Mighty (PG);
Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Mulan (U):
Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Mulan (U):

The Prince of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in the City (U); What Dreams May Come (15); Enemy of the State (15); The Mask of Zorro (PG); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldlers (PG); Antz (PG); Grease (20th Anniversary Edition) (PG) ODEON (08705-050007); The Mask of SOLIHULL VCI 8 (0990-888990); Rush Hour (15); Small Soldiers (PG): The Mask of Zor-ro (PG): Mulan (U): Star Trek: Insur-rection (PG): Saving Private Ryan (15):

The Prince of Egypt (U); Enemy of the State (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Antz (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): What Dreams May Come (15) SOUTHPORT ABC CINEMA (01704-530627); Antz (PG); Out of Sight (15); Blade (18); The

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON PICTURE HOUSE (01789 415500); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy

Prince of Egypt (U); Babe: Pig in the

of the State (15) SUNDERLAND ABC (0191-565 5011); Babe: Pig in the City (U); What Dreams May Come (15); The Prince of Egypt (U): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG)

ODEON (08705-050007); The Prince of

Egypt (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Enemy of the State (15): The Mask of

SUTTON COLDIFIELD

TAMENORTH UCI 10 (0990-888990); Enemy of the State (15); Babe: Pig in the City (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Saving Private Ryan (15): The Prince of Egypt (U): Doll Sa-Jake Rakina (NC); Mulan (U): Rush Hour (15): Blade (18): What Dreams May Come (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Small Soldlers (PG): Out of Sight (15); Antz (PG): Star Trek: Insurrection (PG)

UCI 10 (0990-888990); Antz (PG); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Parent Trap (PG):: Pig in the City (U); Mulan (U); The Prince of Egypt (U): Enemy of the State (15); Rush Hour (15); Blade (18); Doll Sajake Rakhna (NC); What Dreams May Come (15): Saving Private Ryan (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG): Small

Soldlers (PG): Out of Sight (15) APOLLO UNIT SDX (0151-639 2833); The Prince of Egypt (U); The Mask of Zor-ro (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the State (15): 101 Dalmatians (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); Men with Guns (Hombres Armados) (15); What

REGENT (01235-767878); Star Trek; Insurrection (PG); The Parent Trap (PG); Enemy of the State (15); Babe: Pig in

UCI 10 WESTBROOK (0990-888990): The Prince of Egypt (U): Saving Private Ryan (15): The Mask of Zorro (PG): What Dreams May Come (15): Antz (PG): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Soldier (Asian Film) (NC): Star Trek: Insurrec-

WARRINGTON

Dreams May Come (15)

Sight (15): Blade (18): Rush Hour (15) VIRGIN (0541-555150); Enemy of the State (15); The Prince of Egypt (U); Star Trek; Insurrection (PG); Blade (18); What Dreams May Come (15): Small Soldlers (PG): The Parent Trap (PG): Rush Hour (15): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Mask

of Zorro (PG): Out of Sight (15): Antz (PG): The Mighty (PG)

tion (PG): The Parent Trap (PG); Out of

REGAL CENTRE (01909-482896), Halloween: H20 (18); Metroland (18); Small Soldiers (PG); The Land Girls (12)

ODEON (08705-050007); Rush Hour (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); MouseHunt (PG): The Magic Sword: Quest for Carnelot (PG): The Magic Sword: Quest for Camelot (U): Babe: Pig in the City (U): The Mask of Zorro (PG); Out of Sight (15): Small Sol-diers (PG): Godzilla (PG); The Parent Trap (PG): The Prince of Egypt (U): Blade (18): Barney's Great Adventure (U): Enemy of the Stare (15): Antz (PG): What Dreams May Come (15): Paulie (U): Dr Dolittle (PG)

Governess (15); Le Bossu (15); Déja Vu (15); Laurel & Hardy's Laughing Twentles (U); Still Crazy (15) ODEON (08705-050007); The Prince of

WARNER VILLAGE (01904-691094); Antz (PG); Mulan (U); The Parent Trap (PG); Rush Hour (15); Grease (20th Anversary Edition) (PG); The Mask of Zor-

CINEMA

ELECTRIC (0121-643 7277) Elizabeth

NMPFT (PICTUREVILLE) (01274-732277) Mulan (U) Sat 11am; also Mon, Tue 4pm This is Gnerama (U) Sat 1.30pm Out of Sight (15) Sat, Mon-Wed 5.45pm; also Thur 8.15pm Elizabeth (15) Sat, Mon, Tue 8.15pm Primary Colors (15) Wed 8.15pm; also Thur 5.45pm The Bol-lywood Movie (NC) Sun 1.30pm, 7.30pm

COVENTRY
WARWICK ARTS CENTRE (01203-524524) The Governess (15) Sat 4pm; also Sun 7.30pm. Mon, Wed 6.30pm, Tue, Thur 9pm Left Luggage (PG) Sat 7.30pm; also Sun 4pm. Mon 9pm, Tue 6.30pm Mon-sieur Hire (15) Wed 9pm; also Thur 6.30pm

MANCHESTER CORNERHOUSE (0161-200 1500) Dark Victory (NC) Sat 1.55pm, 6.25pm On Connait la Chanson (PG) Sat, Wed, Thur Contair ta Chanson (PG) Sat, Wed, Thur 2pm, 6pm; also Sun, Tue 4.05pm, 8.15pm, Mon 8.15pm The Mighty (PG) Sat 2.05pm, 4pm, 6.10pm; also Sun 2.05pm, 8.20pm, Mon. Fri 6.10pm, 8.20pm, Tue-Thur 2.05pm, 4pm, 6.10pm, 8.20pm Sit-com (18) Sat, Sun, Wed 4.10pm, 8.40pm; also Mon 8.40pm, Tue, Thur 1.55pm, 4.10pm, 6.25pm, 8.40pm, Fri 4.05pm, 8.10pm Hamarm The Turkich Rash 4MC 8.10pm Hamam: The Turkish Bath (NC) Sat. Wed. Thur 4.15pm, 8.15pm; also Sun, Sac vect. Iran 4.13pm, 6.13pm, and 3mi, Tue 2pm, 6.20pm, Mon 6.20pm Fear and Loathing in Las Vegas (18) Sat 8.20pm; also Sun 5.45pm The African Queen (U) Sun 1.55pm, 6.25pm The Magnificent Ambersons (U) Wed 1.55pm, 6.20pm

T. ...

CITY SCREEN (01904-612940); The Egypt (U); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG); The Mask of Zorro (PG); The Parent Trap ro (PG); Babe: Pig in the City (U); Enemy of the State (15); Star Trek: Insurrection (PG): Small Soldiers (PG); The Mighty (PG); What Dreams May Come (15); Out of Sight (15); The Prince of Egypt (U)



(15) Sat, Sun 12.4Spm, 4.45pm, 8.45pm; also Mon-Thur 4.45pm, 8.45pm, The Negotiator (15) Sat, Sun 12.45pm, 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 9pm; also Mon-Thur 3.35pm, 6.15pm, 9pm La Vie de Jésus (NC) Sat-Thur 3pm, 7pm

THE SHOWROOM (0114-275 7727)
Dragonheart (PG) Sat, Sun 2pm The
Mighty (PG) Sat, Tue 2.10pm, 4.20pm,
6.30pm, 8.40pm; also Sun 3pm, 8.10pm,
Mon 2.10pm, 4.20pm, 6.30pm, Wed
2.10pm, 6.15pm, Thur 2.10pm, 8.40pm,
Fri 2.10pm, 6.30pm, 8.40pm Out of Sight
(15) Sat, Mon. Thur, 2.20pm, 5.5pm (15) Sat. Mon-Thur 2.30pm, 5.45pm, 8.15pm; also Sun 2.30pm, 5.15pm, 7.45pm Dead Man's Curve (15) Sat 2.50pm, 6.50pm; also Sun 6.20pm, Mon. Wed 6.50pm, Tue, Thur 9pm Insomnia (18) Sat 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm; also Sun 4.10pm, 6.15pm Insomnia (18) Sat 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm; also Sun 4.10pm, 6.15pm, 8.20pm, Mon-Thur 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.45pm, 8.50pm The Truman Show (PG) Sat 4.40pm, 8.45pm; also Sun 8.15pm, Mon, Wed 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 8.45pm; Tue. Thur 2.30pm, 4.40pm, 6.50pm Mon Oncie (U) Sun 3pm La Strada (PG) Sun 5.50pm; also Mon 8.40pm Mandragora (NC) Wed 8.20pm; also Thur 6pm

THEATRE COUNTRYWIDE

HIS MAJESTY'S Peter Pan Sonia stars in JM Barrie's delightful tale. 2 Jan, 1.45pm & 7pm, 3 Jan, 3pm. £10-£14, concs available. Rosemount Viaduct (01224-641122)

ALEXANDRA THEATRE A Tale of Two Cities Paul Nicholas stars in this new musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens novel. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mars Wed. Thur & Sat 2.30pm, no mats 7.Jan, ends 16.Jan. £7-£24.50. Suffolk Street (0121-643 1231)

BIRMINGHAM REP A Christm Carol Michael Bogdanov directs a new adaptation of Charles Dickens' Victorian tale of greed and redemption. 8 Jan. 10.30am, 2 Jan, 2.30pm. 2. 6-8 Jan, 7.15pm, ends 16 Jan. £7.25-£19, concs available. Broad Street (0121-236 4455)

PIPPODROME Cinderella Damy La Rue and Brian Conley stars as Baroness Voluptua and Buttons, 2 Jan, 2.30pm, 2, 5-8 Jan, 7.15pm, 3 Jan, 1pm, 5-7 Jan, 2pm, 3 Jan, 5,15pm, ends 20 Feb, £9.50-£17.50, concs available. Hurst Street (0121-622 7486)

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BLACKPOOL AND THEATRE Aladdin Magical family panto starring Wayne Sleep as The Slave of the Ring. 2-3, 5-9 Jan. 2pm & 7pm, 10 Jan, 1pm & 5pm, 2-3, 5-9 Jan, 7pm, £6-£13.50, concs available. Church Street (01253-290190)

PRIDLINGTON SPA PAVILION Cinderella Family pantomime starring Paul Valentin from TV's Knightmare as Buttons. Jan. 2.30pm & 7pm, 3 Jan, 2pm & 6pm. £5.50-£6.50, concs available. South Marine Drive (01262-678258)

GATEWAY THEATRE Alice's Adventures in Wonderland Join Alice in her journey down a rabbit , hole to a wild and wacky world full of interesting characters and adventures. 2. 4-8 Jan. 2.15pm, 2, 4, 8 Jan, 7pm, 5-7 Jan, 10.15am, ends 16 Jan. £11.50, child £6.50, concs labie. Hamilton Place (01244-

340392) COVENTRY BELGRADE THEATRE Sleeping Beauty Huge family panto with sumptious costumes, summing sets and a magical time machine. 2 Jan. 2.30pm, 2, 6-8 Jan, 7pm, 3 Jan, 4pm, 6 Jan, 2pm, 8 Jan, 10am, ends 23 Jan. £8-£14.50, concs ava

WARWICK ARTS CENTRE Sinbad Join Sinbad and Princess Jasmine on an exciting and romantic voyage across the Arabian Seas. 2 Jan. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £8-£10, concs lable. Gibbet Hill Road (01203-

Corporation Street (01203-553055)

DERBY PLAYHOUSE Babes in the Wood Join Robin Hood and his merry men in the search for the lost oes in the wood and Maid Marian, who has been taken prisoner in a castle. 2, 5-8 Jan, 2pm, 2, 4, 5, 8 Jan, 7.15pm, 6 & 7 Jan, 10am, ends 23 Jan. £9-£14.50, concs £6-£9.50. Theatre Walk (01332-363275) DUNDEE REPERTORY THEATRE The Jungle Book A charming adaptation of Kipling's tale about Mowgli and his jungle friends. 2 & 9 Jan. 2.30pm, 2. 5-9 Jan, 7.15pm. £9-£10.25. concs available. Tay Square (01382-223530)

EDINBURGH BEDLAM THEATRE Christmas on Mars An actor, his gay flatmate, preg-nant girlfriend and her mother all stuck together, all with an hidden agenda. 2-4 Jan, 7.30pm, mat 2 Jan, 2.30pm. £7, concs £5. Forest Road (0131-225 9893)

KING'S THEATRE The Adventu of Aladdin The magical experience of panto for all the family starring David Rintoul, Allan Stewart and Gerard Kelly. 2 & 6 Jan. 2pm. 2. 5-8 Jan. 7pm. 3 Jan. 1pm, 3 Jan. 5.15pm, ends 17 Jan. £7.50-£14.50, allable. Leven Street (0131-529 6000)

ROYAL LYCEUM THEATRE The Snow Queen Stuart Paterson's charming adaptation of Anderson's fairy tale. 2, 5-9 Jan, 7pm. £4-£15, concs available. Grindlay Street (0131-229 9697)

GLASGOW KING'S THEATRE Sleeping Beau-ty Elaine C Smith stars in this mag-ical fairy-tale production. Mon-Sat, 7pm. no perfs 5 Jan, mats 2-5 Jan 2pm, 6-8 Jan, 1pm, ends 16 Jan, £2.50-£15, concs available. Bath Street (0141-287 5511)

PAVILION THEATRE Pinocchio The Krankies and Jimmy Cricket deliver a magical panto treat. 2 & 3 Jan. 2pm, 2, 5-8 Jan, 7.30pm, 3 Jan, 6.30pm, 6 Jan, 1.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £6-£9.50, concs available. Renfield Street (0141-332 1846)

NEW THEATRE Aladdin Blakey from On the Buses stars with Kathy Staff. 2. 3, 7 Jan, 9, 14, 16, 21, 23, . 5. 7. 8 Jan. 7pm, ends 23 Jan. £9.50-£13.50, concs available. Kingston Square (01482-226655/cc 226996)

EDEN COURT THEATRE Peter Pan Flyaway fun with siren from Gladia-tors and Tich McCooey. 2, 4-9 Jan, 2.15pm, 2, 4-9 Jan, 7pm. £6.50-£12.50, concs available. Bishops Road (01463-234234/cc 234274)

GRAND THEATRE Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Web-ber's musical version of the Bible story. 2 Jan, 2pm, 5pm, 8pm, 3 Jan, 2.30pm & 7.30pm, £8.50-£22, New Briggate (0113-222 6222)

CIVIC THEATRE Robinson Cruso Popular panto with the usual ingre-dients of glamour, comedy, songs and audience participation. 2, 6, 9 Jan. 2pm & 7pm, 3 Jan, 3pm, £6-7, child £5-£6. Cookridge Street (0113-247 6962/245 5505)

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: COURTYARD THEATRE Present Laughter Ian McKellen stars in Noel Coward's withy comedy. Mon-Sat 7.45pm, ends 23 Jan, £8-£17, concs £5.50-£14.50. The Nutoracker Hoffman's tale of the Sugar Plum Fairy. 2, 4, 5, 8 Jan, 10am, 2, 4-8 Jan, 1.30pm, ends 23 Jan, £5,50-£17. Playhouse Square

The state of the s

WEST YORKSHIRE PLAYHOUSE: QUARRY THEATRE Martin Guerre Boubil and Schonberg's musical love story, Mon-Sat 7.30pm, mats Tue & Thur-Sat 2pm, ends 13 Feb. £8-£24, concs £8-£18.50. Playhouse square (0113-213 7700)

LIVERPOOL NEPTUNE THEATRE Peter Pan Former Gladiator Eunice flies in to save the Lost Boys from the scheming Captain Hook, played by come-cian Leslie Gibson. 2-5, 9, 10 Jan, 2pm, 2, 4, 7-10 Jan. 7pm. £7-£10. concs £5-£8. Hanover Street (0151-

MANCHESTER FORUM THEATRE WYTHEN-SHAWE The Snow Queen Imaginative adaptation of Hans Christi Andersen's fairy tale. 2 Jan. 2.30pm & 7pm, £8-£14, concs £6-£11. Civic Centre (0161-437 9663)

LIBRARY THEATRE Puss in Boots Adventure story about a young man who leaves home in search of fame and fortune, accompanied by his exceptionally clever cat Puss. 2 Jan, 2.30pm. 2 & 8 Jan, 7pm. 6 & 7 Jan. 10.30am & 2pm. ends 16 Jan. £8-£15, concs available. Central Library, St Peter's Square (0161-236

OPERA HOUSE Oliver! Gary Wilmot stars in Lionel Bart's ever-popular musical about the fortunes of an orphan in Dickensian London. Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat 2.30pm, ends 30 Jan. £10-£29. Quay Street (0161-242 2503/cc 831 7733) PALACE THEATRE Cinderella Jim

Davidson directs a family panto for a change, starring Darren Day and Ruth Madoc. 2, 5-8 Jan. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 3 Jan, 1pm, ends 23 Jan. £7.50-£15.50, concs available. Oxford Street (0161-242 2525) ROYAL EXCHANGE THEATRE Himdie Wakes The Royal Exchange re-

opens with the production which was cut short by the bomb blast in 1996. Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm, mat 2 Jan, 4pm, ends 9 Jan. £7-£23, concs available. St Anne's Square (0161-833 9833)

NEWCASTLE PLAYHOUSE The Princess and the Goblin The goblins attempt to take over the world in this magical Christmas show. 2 4-9 Jan, 7pm, 4-9 Jan, 2pm, £10.75-£12.75, concs available. Barras Bridge (0191-230 5151)

THEATRE ROYAL Cinderella Pop ular pantomime with stars from TV's Coronation Street and Eastenders. 2 Jan, 12noon & 3.30pm, 2, 4-8 Jan. 7pm, 4-8 Jan, 2pm, ends 23 Jan. £5-£15, concs available. Grey Street (0191-232 2061)

NOTTINGHAM PLAYHOUSE Jack and the Beanstalk Kenneth Alan Taylor writes and directs his 15th con-secutive pantomime for Nottingham se. 2. 5. 8 Jan. 2.30om. 2 4-8 Jan, 7.30pm, ends 23 Jan, £9-£12, child £5-£8. East Circus Street (0115-941 9419)

THEATRE ROYAL Dick Whittington Spectacular pantomime starring Lesley Joseph, John Nettles, Jeffrey Holland and Hilary Minster. 2, 5-7 Jan. 2pm, 2, 5-8 Jan. 7pm, 3 Jan. 5pm, ends 24 Jan. £8-£15. concs available. Theatre Square (0115-989 5555/cc 948 2525)

EXHIBITIONS

SCARBOROUGH STEPHEN JOSEPH THEATRE; MC-CARTHY AUDITORIUM Cheap and Cheerful A new musical revue writ-ten and directed by Alan Ayckbourn. 2 Jan, 7.45pm, ends 30 Jan. E9-£12.50, concs available. Westborough (01723-370541)

SHEFFIELD **CRUCIBLE THEATRE South Pacif**ic Heartwarming Rodgers and Ham-merstein musical. 2, 6-7 Jan.

2.30pm, 2, 4-8 Jan, 7.30pm, ends 23 Jan. £11-£15. concs available. Norfolk Street (0114-276 9922)

STRATFORD-UPON-AVON ROYAL SHAKESPEARE THEATRE The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe Adrian Noble directs Adrian Mitchell's adaptation of the CS Lewis Namia classic, 2 Jan, 2.30pm, 2, 6, 7 Jan, 7.15pm, 7 Jan, 1.30pm. end 27 Feb. £5-£30. The Winter's Tale Seasonal tale of

obsessive jealousy. 4, 5, 8 Jan. 7.30pm, 6 Jan. 7pm, ends 4 Mar. £7-£30. Waterside (01789-295623) SWAN THEATRE A Month in the Country Brian Friel's adaptation of Turgenev's portrait of all-consuming sexual desire. Michael Attenbor-ough directs. 2 Jan. 1.30pm. 5, 6. 8 Jan. 7.30pm. ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Troilus and Cressida Depiction of the human spirit undermined by bloody. human spirit undermined by bloody warfare. 2, 4, 7. 9 Jan, 7.30pm, 7 Jan, 1.30pm, ends 20 Feb. £5-£30. Waterside (01789-295623)

GRAND OPERA HOUSE Jack and The Beanstalk Fun-filled family panto with TV stars from Glodiators and Home and Avoy. 2, 4-9 Jan. 2.30pm & 7.30pm, 10 Jan. 7pm. £8-£12. cones available. Cumberland Street (01904-671818)

THEATRE WEST END

CINDERELLA Angela Carter's version is staged by Improbable Theatre Lyric Hammersmith King Street, W6 (0181-741 2311) & Phone for det ends 9 Jan, £5-£18, concs £6.50.

JESUS, MY BOY Tom Conti stars in John Dowie's alternative Christmas show Apollo Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070) ⊕ Picc Circ. Phone for details, £5.50-£18.50.

ROYAL NATIONAL THEATRE OLIVIER: Peter Pan With Michael Bryant as the Storyteller in rep phone for details.

LYTTELION: Betrayal Pinter's defin-ing work stars Imogen Stubbs and Douglas Hodge. In rep phone for de-COTTESLOE: Copenhagen Ac claimed new drama from Michael Prayn about the discovery of the atom. In rep phone for details. 145 mins. Olivier & Lyttelton: £8-£27. Cottesloe: £12-£18. Day seats from 10am. South Bank, SE1 (0171-452 3000). BB/A Waterfoo

3000). BR/& Waterloo. ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY THE BARBICAN: The Tempest Adrian Noble directs Shakespeare's romance drama. In rep phone for de-

THE PIT: The Two Gentlemen Of Verona Shakespeare's witty comedy is directed by Edward Hall. In rep phone for details. Barbican Theatre: 55-E26. The Pit: £11-£18.50. Barbican Centre, EC2 (0171-638 8891). BR/⊕ Barbican/Moorgate.

URMINGHAN **BIRMINGHAM MUSEUM AND ART** GALLERY Burne-Jones Important

work by Sir Edward Burne-Jones Mon-Thur, Sat 10am-5pm, Fri 10.30am-5pm, Sun 12.30pm-5pm, ends 17 Jan, £5, £3.50 concs, £14 family. Chamberlain Square (0121-303 2834)

EDINBURGH

CITY ART CENTRE Alice Maher and Tim Davies Leading artists Maher and Davies exhibit unusual new work, exploring a range of concerns Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 12noon 5pm, ends 4 Jan, free. Marke. Street (0131-529 3993)

GLASGOW ART GALLERY AND MUSEUM, KELVINGROVE BT Dialogue in the Dark Visitors explore their senses in sound, scent and touch exhibits. Ends 10 Jan.

relling Companions: Mone and Seurat The third exhibition is the series focusses on French works. Mon-Sat 10am-5pm, Sun 11am-5pm, closed 2 Jan, ends 31 Jan, free, Kelvingrove (0141-287 2699)

LEEDS CITY ART GALLERY 10-16: Gillian Wearing Six short films by the leading contemporary artist. Ends 10

dish Roots: Eric Cameron Thou sands of layers of paint surrounding organic objects. Mon. Tue & Thur-Sat. 10am-5pm. Wed 10am-8pm. Sun 1pm-5pm. ends 31 Jan, free. The

LIVERPOOL TATE GALLERY LIVERPOOL A Mythology: Salvador Dali Major works from the Florida Dali museum. worss from the Florida Dali museum. Ends 31 Jan. £5, concs £2.50. Cubism Paintings, sculptures and col-lages by Picasso, Braque and others. Modern British Art The refurbished galleries exhibit works from the National Collections. Urban Modern work examining city

life, Tue-Sun & Bank Hols 10am-6on ends Apr. free. Albert Dock (0151-709 32231 MANCHESTER WHITWORTH ART GALLERY Chris

Ofili Challenging paintings inspired by the black music tradition, comic and film characters and 1970s style Ends 24 Jan, free. Burne-Jones Centenary Exhibition Marking the centenary of Sir Edward Burne-Jones, Mon-Sat

10am-5pm, Sun 2pm-5pm, ends 21 Mar, free. University of Manchester, Oxford Road (0161-275 7452) **NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE** UNIVERSITY GALLERY An Invest ment Bank's Collection Barings' early modern paintings, including works by LS Lowry and Lucien Pis-

sarro. Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, ends

15 Jan, free. Sandyford Road (0191-

YORK CITY ART GALLERY Venice Through Canaletto's Eyes Twentyree paintings and u.a..... enetian artist. Ends 3 Jan. intings and drawings by the Across Moor and Down Dale The work of 10 well-known Yorkshire artists selected by art critic Mary Sara. Mon-Sat 10am-Spm. Sun 2.30pm-Spm, ends 31 Jan, free. Exhibition Square (01904-551861)

CLASSICAL

BIRMINGHAM SYMPHONY HALL CBSO/Weller

Viennese music by Johann Strauss II. 3 Jan, 7pm. £6-£31. National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/forteller Works by Wagner, Debussy, Ravel and Richard Strauss. 6 Jan. 8pm. £6.50-£26. Broad Street (0121-212 3333)

GLASGOW CITY HALL Scottish Chamber Orchestra/Ostman Symphonies by Haydn, Mozart and J.S.Bach

conducted by Arnold Ostman. 8 Jan. 7.30pm. £5-£16, concs available. Candleriggs (0141-287 5511) THE GLASGOW ROYAL CONCERT HALL Royal Scottish National Orchestra/Andre Martin Andre conducts Viennese favourites. 2 Jan.

3pm. £8-£21, concs available, National Youth Orchestra Of Scotland/Moldoveanu The New Year Concert conducted by Nicolae Moldoveanu. 5 Jan., 7.30pm. £1-£16. Sauchiehall Street (0141-287 5511)

LIVERPOOL

PHILHARMONIC HALL Royal Liverpool Philharmonic The audience chooses the programme tine-up. 2 Jan, 7.30pm. £10. Johann Strauss Orchestra/Warren-Green Music by the Strauss family, with the Johann Strauss Dancers. 7 Jan, 7.30pm. £7.50-£21. Hope Street (0151-709 3789)

MANCHESTER BRIDGEWATER HALL Johann Strauss Orchestra/Warren-Green Music by the Strauss family, with the Johann Strauss Dancers. 2 & 6 Jan. 7.30pm. £10.50-£24.50. Halle/Dunk Music from Vienna. 3 Jan, 7.30pm. £8-£28.

Halle/Foster Music by De Falla
with Tchaikovsky's 4th Symphony. 7
Jan, 7.30pm. £6.50-£29. National Youth Orchestra of Great Britain/Tortlier Music by Wagner, Debussy and Richard Strauss. 8 Jan, 7.30pm. £6.50-£28. Lower Mosley Street (0161-907 9000)

PERTH PERTH CITY HALL Scottish Chamber Orchestra/Quinn Andrea Quinn conducts and evening of Strauss. 2 Jan, 7.30pm. £6.50-£16.50, concs available. King Edward Street (01738-621031)

OPERA

HARLECH THEATR ARDUDWY Carmen Highlights From Welsh National Opera on tour, with other famous arias and duets. 5 Jan. 7.30pm. £12. (01766-780667)

LLANGEFNI PLAS ARTHUR LEISURE CENTRE Carmen Highlights See Harlech. 6 Jan, 7.30pm, £12. Penralit (01248-

DANCE

GLASGOW THEATRE ROYAL Scottish Ballet: Cinderella John Fraser's production of the classic fairytale. 6-9 Jan, 7.15pm, mats 7 Jan, 1.30pm, 9 Jan, 2.15pm, £3.50-£32, concs available. Hope Street (0141-332 9000)

LITERATURE

CARNOUSTIE WRITER'S GROUP Regular meeting for beginners and experienced writers. Carnoustie Library High Street (01241-859620) 7 Jan,

7.30pm-10.30pm, free.

WAYS INTO WRITING (OVER 185) A supportive group exploring a range of styles and approaches. Manor House Art Gallery and Museum Castle Yard (01943-600066) Tue 10.30am-1pm, ends 9 Feb, £82 for COURSE, CORCS.

NOTTINGHAM

WORD Midlands-based writers present their work. Malt Cross Music Hall St James's Street (0) 15-941 1048) Thur 8.30-11pm, free.

COMEDY

BIRMINGHAM THE GLEE CLUB Noel Britten. Robin Ince, Sean Percival, plus spe-cial guests. 2 Jan. 8pm. £10, mems free. Hurst Street (0121-693 2248).

THE STAND Susan Morrison introduces Jake Junior, John Gillick and Brian Hennigan. 8 Jan. 9pm-11.15pm, York Place (0131-558 7272) £5, concs £4.

LEKESTER JONGLEURS LEICESTER Andre Vincent., Roger D, Brian Higgins, The Sunday Show's Paul Tonkinson. 7 Jan, 7.45pm, £6. B Jan. 7.45pm,

Granby Street (0845-6081818) £10. MANCHESTER BARREL OF LAUGHS AT FROG & BUCKET P.J., Mary Unfaithful, plus

headliner and MC TBC. 8 & 9 Jan. 8.30pm, Oldham Street (0161-236 9805) Fri Σ6 adv. £7 door, concs £4; Sat £7 adv. £8 door, concs £6.

NOTTINGHAM

JONGLEURS NOTTINGHAM Andrew Maxwell Perrier nominee Al Murray as the Pub Landford, Ed Byrne, 8 Jan, 8.45pm, Castle Wharf, Canal Street (0845-6081818) £10.

CLUBS

DIZZY HEIGHTS AT THE DOG AND TRUMPET House from Miss Moneypenny's Jay G and Jules. 7 Jan, 8pm-2am, £2. Hertford Street (01203-221678)

THE ARK Starring French DJ/remixer Tom Bouthier, 8 Jan, 10.30pm-3.30am, £7. concs £5. Mitchell Street (0141-204 1000)

GI ASGOW

MANCHESTER YELLOW AT THE BOARDWALK Manchester's legendary funky Fri-day 8 Jan, 10pm-2am, £5, NUS £4. Little Peter Street (0161-228 3555)

ROYALE AT THE LEADMILL Dancefloor classics, house anthems and more. 8 Jan, 10pm-3am, £5, NUS £4. Leadmill Road (0114-275 4500)

and contact of

MUSIC

POP, JAZZ, FOLK, ETC

BIRMINGHAM KING PLEASURE & THE BISCUIT BOYS Kansas swing and R&B out-fit. Ronnie Scott's Broad Street (0121-643 4525) 4-9 Jan, Bpm.

£10.50-£15.50. CIRENCESTER CEILIDH WITH RED HOUSE Ever popular folk-dance band. The Corn Hall Market Place (01285-641640)

2 Jan, 8pm, £6, concs £4. EDINBURGH MB PLAYERS Hip local bop outfit with Subie Coleman, Colin Steele and Russell Cowieson. Care Graffith Mansfield Place Church, E. London

Street (0131-557 8330) 8 Jan. 9.30pm, £6, concs £5. ALTERED BEATS Live drum n'bass session with percussionists Guy Nicholson, John Rae and Tom Bancroft joining soloists, rappers, vo-calists and DJs to mix up jazz, jungle, funk and trip-hop. 4 Jan, 10pm, £3. Jazz Joint Morrison Street (0131-

GLASGOW REBA MCENTIRE Mega-selling fe-male country artist on her debut Eu-ropean tour. The Glasgow Royal Concert Hall Sauchiehall Street (0141-287 5511) 7 & 8 Jan. 8pm.

MANCHESTER

WORLD SERVICE Chris Jerome's fusion ensemble. Band On The Wall Swan Street (0161-833 0682) 7 Jan.

RAWTENSTALL GEOFE SIMKINS Alto leads modern. jazz quartet. Rhythm Station Sta-tion Court (01706-214039) 5 Jan.

ALLAN TAYLOR Folk singer-songwriter, whose work has been covere by Fairport Convention, Black Swan Folk Club Peasholme Green (01904-625236) 7 Jan. 8pm. £6, concs £5.

EVENTS

ELACKBURN
ALADDIN ON ICE Traditional pantomime presented by Stageworks Worldwide Theatre of Ice. King George's Hall Northgate (01254-582582) Ends 10 Jan, phone for details, £9-£10, concs £7-£8, group

CHEITENHAM VANITY FAIR EXHIBITION Selection of costumes worn by the princi-pal characters in the BBC's latest adaptation, designed by BAFTA win-ner Rosalind Ebbutt. Pittville Pump Room Albert Road (01242-523852/cc 523690) Mon. Wed-Sat 10am-4.30pm, ends 14 Feb. £1.50, concs 50p.

DUNFERMLINE FINDING A FRENCH CONNEC-TION: NORMANDY PAST & PRESENT Illustrated talk by photo journalist Margaret Greenwood. Carnegie Hall East Port (01383-314127) 6 Jan, 7.30pm, £5, concs £2.

SUNDAY CHOICE-

SOME OF the STATE OF THE STATE

was the first singer to be called a crooner Manrice Chevalier (above) then took up the baton when he brought his distinctive warble to Hollywood and elicited mass bysterie among his fans. R2 investigates.

PERCENT 1
975-59-54-1: FM, 6.30 Radio 1 Review of the Year.
10.00 Mark Goodier. 1,00 Lisa l'Anson. 3,00 Top of
the Pops. 4,00 The Official UK Top 40, 7,00 Radio 1's
Dance Artherns with Dave Peerce. 10.00 Trevor
Nelson. 12,00 Emma B. 4,00 - 6,30 Scott Mills.
Radio 2
88-07-54-5-12-17-70 One Marchens C.05 Count.

Radio 2 (88-90-2MHz PM) 7.00 Don Madeen, 9.05 Steve Wright, 11.00 Parkinson's Sunday Supplement, 1.00 Desmond Carrington, 3.00 Frank Sinetra Concert. Desmond Carrington, 3,00 Harms careina Collect.
4,00 The Crooners. See Choice, above, 4,30 Sing Something Simple. 5,00 Pern Ayres, 7,00 Hugh Sully, 8,30 Sunday Half Hour. 9,00 Alan Kelth. 10,00 Malcolm Laycock, 11,00 Devid Jacobs Collection. 12,00 Keltina Leskanich. 3,00 - 4,00 Mo Dutts.

3 oilus S02-92-44/± PM) 6.00 On Air 9.00 Brian Kay's Sunday Morring, 11.00 Artist of the Week, 12.15 Music Matters South African Special. 1.00 The Radio. 3 Lunckling Concert, 2.30 BSC Scottish Symphony Orchestra. 3.00 Spirit of the Age, 4.00 100 Great Singers, 4.15 Centurions, 4.30 The Year, 5.45 Sunday Feature, Setting the Score, 6.30 Private Passions, 7.30 Sunday Play: The Comedy of Errors, 9.30 Choir Works: 11.00 World Music, 11.30 BSC Scottish Symphony Conhecter, 1.00 - 8.00 Through the Night. 502-92-4Mi-iz PM) 6.00 On Air 9.00 Brian Kay's Symphony Orchestra, 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

Badio 4 92 494 (At-1z PM) 6.00 News Briefing, 6.05 Something Understood, 6.35 On Your Parm, 6.57 Weather 7.00 News, 7.05 Sunday Papers, 7.10 Sunday, 7.55 Radio 4 Appeal, 8.00 Rows, 6.05 Sunday Papers, 8.07 Sunday Worship, 8.45 Letter from America, 9.00 News; Broadcasting House, 10.00 The Arches, 11,15 Desert Island Discs, 12.00 News; Tales from the Back of Beyond, 12.30 fm Sorry I Heart a Clue. 12.58 Weather, 1.00 The World This Weekend, 1.30 Counterpoint, 2.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time. 2.30 Rembings. 3.00 The Classic Setal: The Rose and the Ring. 4.00 News; Bookolub. 436 Redio Poem. 5.00 News; Censored. 5.40 A30 Redio Poem. 5.00 News; Cersorea. 5.40 Victoriana, 5.54 Shipping Forecast, 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Ser, O'Clock News, 8.15 Pick of the Year, 7.00 News; The Archers, 7.15 Room for Improvement. 6.00 News; The Odest Member. 6.30 Word of Mouth. 9.00 News; Weather Wise. 9.30 Analysis. 10.00 News; This Weather Wise. 9.30 Analysis. 10.00 News; This Weatherster Hour. 11.00 News Hidden Researce, 11.30 Something Understood. 12.00 Researce, 11.30 Something Understood. News. 12.15 Experimental Feature: Talk to Sleep.
12.30 The Late Story: Hot Tickets. 12.48 Shipping
Friesas, 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 535 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45
Payer for the Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today.

Radio 4 LW (1284: 12.00 - 12.04 News Headines; Shipping Forces: 12.00 - 7.00 Test Metch Special do S Live

123 03941z/MW) 6.00 Brief Lives. 6.30 Andrew Neil. (23 03941z/MW) 6.00 Brief Lives. 6.30 Andrew Neil. (200 SportsWeek: 10.00 Hayes on Sunday. 12.00 Yanis on TV, 12.30 The Media Show. 1.00 Sunday. Sport. 6.00 The Scottish Premier Leegus. 8.00 News Bata. 8.30 Brief Lives. 9.00 Dallyn Worldwide. 9.30 Out This Week: 10.00 Late Night Currie. 1.00 Up All Molt. Son... 8 on Manufacture.

Not. 5.00 - 6.00 Moraling Reports.

World Service Pladfo

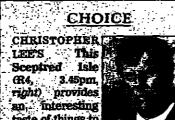
1384 2:14) 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Pick of the World.

200 Newsdesy. 2.30 Meridian (Feature). 3.00 World.

News. 3.05 Write On. 3.15 Sports Foundap. 3.30 The Works 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today

The second second

MONDAY



taste of things to come. The original series, which traced the history of Britain from the Norman Conquest to the 19th century was 200 hours long, but a new, mercifully brief, series will bring events up to date.

Parasso 1 (97 6-99-8MHz FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Meyo. 12.00 Kavin Greening. 2.00 Mark Raddiffe. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 6.00 Dave Peerce. 8.00 Lamacq Live. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Cilve Warren. 4.00 -6.30 Scott Miles.

Randio 2
(R64-0.2MHz RM) 6.00 Alex Lester, 7.30 Sarah Kannedy,
9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stewert,
5.05 Johnnie Welker, 7.00 Humphrey Lyttelton, 8.00
Big Band Speciel, 8.30 Georgie Farne, 9.30 In the
Days before Rock 'n' Roll, 10.30 Richard Allinson,
12.00 Ketrina Lesternich, 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutte,
Randio 3
00 3.02 4MHz PM 6.00 On Air, 8.00 Mexterworks.

Radio 3

(SC 2-92 4MHz FM) 5.00 On Air. 9.00 Mesterworks.

10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week Francis Poulenc. 1.00 The Redio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Opera in Action. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Performance on 3. Philip Martin (piano), Christopher Maltman (partione), Utster Orchestra, conductor Adrien Lasper. Howard Ferguson: Overture for an Occasion. Finzl., orch Ferguson: The Fall of the Leaf. Fercuson: Piano Ferguson: The Fall of the Leaf. Ferguson: Plano Concent; Two Ballads, First: Let Us Gartands Bring, Ferguson: Partite. 9.15 Postsoript. 9.35 Missian Plays Bach. 10.00 Voices. 10.45 Missing It. 11.30 Jazz

Notes, 12.00 Composer of the Week: Camille Saint-Saens, 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. KMB000 4 (CC 4-94 6NH-E FM) 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; Start the Week, 9.45 Serial: The Varnished World, 10.00 News; Women's Hour, 11.00 News; Benn's Gallery, 11.30 My Galety Girls. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Counterpoint. Weather: 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Counterpoint. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Enoch Arden. 3.00 News; Money Box Live: 0171 580 4444, 3.30 The Meiting Pot. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. See Choice, above. 4.00 News; The Food Programme. 4.30 Turning World. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather: 6.00 Six O'Clock News. 6.30 I'm Sorry I Haven't a Clue. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Roof. 8.00 News; Dr Graham's Schools. 6.30 Analysis. 9.00 News; Natura: Insight. 9.30 Start the Week. 10.00 The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Nana. 11.00 Radio 4 Appeal. 11.02 Cheese Makes You Dream. 11.30 Scaling the Mountain. 12.00 Makes You Dream. 11.30 Feato 4 Appeal. 11.02 Cheese Makes You Dream. 11.30 Scaling the Mourtain. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Lete Book: The Restreint of Beasts, 12.48 Shipping Forecast, 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 - 6.00 Farming

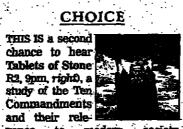
Today.

Radio 4 LW
1984-1: 9.45 - 10.00 Deily Service. 12.00 - 12.04
News Headines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 - 5.57
Shipping Forecast. 12.00 - 7.00 Test Match Special.

Radio 5 Live
(683. 9094-12 MW) 8.00 Breakfast. 9.00 Nicky

(683: 9U9k+2 MW) BJUU breardast, 9JD0 Nicky Campbell, 12,00 The Midday News, 1,00 Ruscoe and Co. 4,00 Drive, 7,00 News Extra, 7,30 Footbell Legends, 8,00 Travor Brooking's Monday Match. 10,00 Late Night Live, 1,00 Up Ali Night, 5,00 - 6,00 Morning Reports. World Service Radio World Service Haddo (1993-1: LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Seven Days, 1.45 (1993-1: LW) 1.00 Newsdey, 2.30 On Screen, 3.00 World News, 3.05 Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 Watershed, 4.00 - 7.00 World Today.

TUESDAY



vance to modern society. Trevor Jones wonders how such maxims as "Thou Shalt Not Covet Thy Neighbour's Wife"

Radio 1 (97 6-99 8MHz PM) 6.30 Zoe Bell. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radciffle. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 6.00 Dove Pearce. 8.00 Stave Lamacq - the Evening Session. 10.00 Digital Update. 10.10 John Peel. 12.00 The Breezeblock. 2.00 Cilve Warren. 4.00 5.30 Scott Miles.

Ractio 2
(99-90-3MHz PAN 6.00 Alex Lester, 7.30 Sarah
Kennedy, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12.00 Jimmy Young, 2.00
Ed Stewart, 5.05 Johnnie Walker, 7.00 Alan Freeman:
Their Greatest Bits, 8.00 Nigel Ogden, 9.00 Tablets of
Stone, See Choice, above, 10.00 Susan Jeffreys Says
Make It a Double, 10.30 Richard Alfrison, 12.00
Katrins Leskshich, 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta.
Ractio 3

90.2-92 4M-t: FMij 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks. 10.30 Artist of the Week: Poulenc. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Voices. 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Tuns. 7.30 Performance on 3. Handler's oration based on the story of Susanna and the Elders in the Apocrypha, given in concert during last year's London Handel Festival. Emma Kirkby, soprano (Susanna), James Bowman, countertenor (Joechm). London Handel Choir and Orchestra/Denys Darlow. 10.20 Postscript. 10.45 Night Waves. 11.30 Jazz Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Saers. 1.00 - 6.00 r of the Week Saint-Saens, 1.00 - 6.00 Composer of the We Through the Night.

Triumph, No Tragedy. 9.30 Leen Times. 9.45 Sertal: The Vanished World. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. The Vanished World. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Nature: Insight. 11.30 The Gatton and Simpson Radio Playhouse. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Full Orchestra. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play: Elemental Tales. 3.00 News; The Eachange: 0171 580 4444. 3.30 The Meiting Pot. 3.45 This Scephret Isle. 4.00 News; A Good Read. 4.30 Shop Talk. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Sk O'Clock News. 6.30 The Cheese Shop Present. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Root. 8.00 News; True Colours - South Africa Today. 8.40 In Touch. 9.00 News; Case Notes Spacial, 9.30 No Truch, 9.00 News; Case Notes Special, 9.30 No Triumph, No Tragedy, 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bedlime: Nane, 11.00 The Patrick and Maureen Maylos Music Experience, 11.30 Talking Pictures, 12.00 News, 12.30 The Late Book: Res of Beasts, 12.48 Shipping, 1.00 As World Service

Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. Nadio 4 Liv (1961+12) 9.45 - 10.00 Delly Service, 12.00 - 12.04 News Readines; Shipping Forecast, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, 12.00 - 7.00 Yest Match Special. Radio 5 Live

Meich, 10.00 Lise Night (Ne. 1.00 Up Al Night, S.O. 6.00 Monting Reports.

World Service Radio
(1961-t LW) 1.00 Newsdest, 1.30 Discovery, 2.00 Newsday, 2.30 Meridien (Live), 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Dusiness Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 One Planet, 4.00 - 7.00 The World Today.

WEDNESDAY

PERFORMANCE ON 3 (R3, 7.30pm)



Antoine Charpentier's depiction of Ovid's Metamorphoses, in which Action is turned into a stag by the goddess Diana. This is paired with the opera Dido and Aeneus by

97.6-92 BMHz FM 5.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kavin Greening. 2.00 Mark Radollile. 4.00 Chris Moyles. 6.00 Dave Pearce, 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session. 10.00 Movie Update with Mark

Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00 Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 Nick Sarraclough. 8.00 Mike Harding, 9.00 The Andy Peebles Soul Show, 10.00 Route 66 Revisited, 10.30 Richard Alinson, 12.00 Katrina Leskanith, 3.00 - 4.00

1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

(92 4-94 (MHz FM) 6.00 Today. 9.00 News; Midweek. 9.45 Serial: The Vanished World. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour, 11.00 News; The Reclaimers, 11.30 Choice Grentell, 12.00 News; You and Yours, 12.57 Weather, 1,00 The World at One. 1,30 Wildbrain, 2,00 Westher, 1.00 The World at Ons. 1.30 Wildbrain, 2.00 News; The Archers, 2.15 Afternoon Play: A Love Song to the Busss, 3.00 News; Gardeners' Question Time, 3.30 The Melting Pot, 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 News; Case Notes Special, 4.30 Thinking Allowed - the Larger Map. 5.00 PM, 5.57 Weather, 6.00 Six O'Clock News, 6.30 Like They've Never Been Gone, 7.00 News; The Archers, 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Roof, 8.00 News; Them and Us. Diane, Madill presents the second in a series of lively debates shout the major Issues of the day. debetes about the major Issues of the day. Proposition: The asylum system is too great a burden Beasts. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 5.00 Farming Today.

| 138kHz| 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 - 12.04 | 138kHz| 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service, 12.00 - 12.04 | 138kHz| Shipping, 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast, | Radio 5 Live | 1693, 908kHz| MM| 6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky Campbell

(right) was the most sociable, hobnobbing with the likes of Zola

and Baudelaire. In Sound Stories (R3, 11am), Donald Macleod looks at the relationship between the painter and the composers of the day and how both reflected the mood of the belle epoque.

Redio 1 67 6-99 8MHz FNB 6.30 Zoe Ball 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Merk Radolite. 4.00 Chris Moyles, 6.00 Dave Pearce. 8.00 Steve Lamacq - the Evening Session, 10.00 Trade Update, 10.10 John Pael, 12.00 Andy Kershaw. 2.00 Citve Warren. 4.00 -

8.00 Paul Jones. 9.00 Barry Took's Comedy Classics the Men from the Ministry. 8.30 Love 40 - New Balls Please. 10.00 Girls and Gulters. 10.30 Richard Allerson. 12.00 Kathra Lestamich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo 190 2-90 41/Hz Fkin 6.00 On Air, 9.00 Masterworks

Postscript, 8.55 London Symphony Orchestra, 10.00 Music Restored, 10.45 Night Waves, 11.30 Jazz Notes, 12.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Seens, 1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night. 1.00 - 6.00 Through the regin.

Radia 4
(92.4-64.6MHz Fkl) 6.00 Today. 9.00 News; in Our
Time with Melvyn Bragg. 9.30 Lean Times. 9.45
Serial: The Vanished World. 10.00 News; Woman's
Hour. 11.00 News; From Our Own Correspondent.
11.30 Old Dog and the Partridge. 12.00 News; You
and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One.
1.30 Hidden Tiressures. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15
Absonces Plans The Hood of Modules. 3.00 News: Call

3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 Word of Mouth. 4.30 The Material World. 5.00 PM, 5.57 Weather. 6.00 St O'Clock News, 6.30 The Worders. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 Front Row. 7.45 Under One Roof. 8.00
News; Cess History, 8.30 To Be Announced. 9.00
News; Testbeds. Plastics for Everything - Including TV
Screens'. In the first of a ten-part series, Vanessa Collinginge explores the technologies that will shape our future.9.30 in Our Time with Mekyn Bragg. 10.00 News; The World Tonight. 10.45 Book at Bedfilms: Nana. 11.00 News; World of Pub. 11.30 Experimental Feature: Mercian Hymns. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: The Restraint of Beasts. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News.

Moring Reports. World Service Radio

A VERY BRITISH STORY (R2, 7pm)
explores what
separates British

investigates why Hollywood attracts so much more financial investment. Today, Michael Freedland looks at landmark studios in Britain, including Elstree, Pinewood (above) and Ealing, in his search for the soul of film.

Radio 2 (98-90 3MH: FN) 6.00 Alex Lester, 7.30 Sarah Kennedy, 9.30 Ken Bruce, 12,00 Jimmy Young, 2.00 Ed Stawart, 5.05 Des Lynam, 7.00 A Very British Story, See Choice, above, 7.30 Friday Night is Music Night. 9.15 Wuthering Heights. 9.30 Listen to the Band. 10.00 David Jacobs. 10.30 Sheridan Morley. 12.00 Lynn Parsons. 4.00 - 6.00 Lata Sharma. Ptadio 3

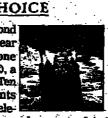
Through the Night:
Radio 4
(92 + 34 6AH; FM) 6.00 Today, 9.00 News; Desert Island Discs. 9.45 Serial: The Vanished World. 10.00 News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Sentimental News; Woman's Hour. 11.00 News; Sentimental Journey. 11.30 The Oldest Member. 12.00 News; You and Yours. 12.57 Weather. 1.00 The World at One. 1.30 Screen Test. 2.00 News; The Archers. 2.15 Afternoon Play. Jerusalem North West. 3.00 News; Logged On. 3.30 The Melting Pot. 3.45 This Sceptred Isle. 4.00 News; Bookclub. 4.30 The Message. 5.00 PM. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Sto C'Clock News. 6.30 The Clock of Newholf Ten. 7.00 News; The Archers. 7.15 PM. 5.57 Weather, 6.00 Six O'Clock News, 6.30 The Ghost of Number Ten, 7.00 News; The Archers, 7.15 Front Row, 7.45 Under One Root, 8.00 News; Any Questions?, 8.45 Letter from America, 9.00 News; The Friday Play: The Year of the Tiger, By Tina Pepler. When Joe is given an unusual assignment in Bangladesh, little does he realise that he will be bewitched both by the real tigers and by the turbulence of this, the Chinase Year of the Tiger. Director Marion Nancarrow, 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Bedtime: Nana, Juliet Stevenson reads Emile Zolats novel, 11.00 News; Late Tackle, 11.30 Emile Zole's novel. 11.00 News; Laté Tackle. 11.30 Sporting Philarthropists. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late

(1984Hz) 9.45 - 10.00 An Act of Worship, 12.00 -12.04 News Headlines; Shipping Forecast. 5.54 -

5.57 Shipping Forecast. Radio 5 Live (693, 903-Hz MW) 6.00 Breaklast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell 12.00 The Midday News 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's

Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Extra. 7.30 Alan Green's Sponsnight. 10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 6.00 Monting Reports. World Service Radio (1981-12 LW 1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Meridian (Books). 2.00 Newsdesk. 2.30 People and Politics. 3.00 World News. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 World Business Report. 3.45 Insight. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Weekend. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 - 6.00 My Century.

RADIO

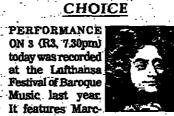


measure up in the age of political sleaze and sex scandals.

90.2-92 4MHz FM) **6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.**

(32 J-94 RMH: FM) 6.00 Today, 9.00 News: No

(23), 909/Hz MW) 6.00 Breakfast, 9.00 Nicky Campbell, 12.00 The Middley News, 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive, 7.00 News Extra, 7.30 The Tuesdey Match, 10.00 Late Night Live, 1.00 Up All Night, 5.00 -



It features Marc-Purcell (above).

Kermode, 10.10 John Peel, 12.00 Gilles Peterson. 2.00 Cive Warren. 4.00 - 6.30 Scott Mills. Ractio 2 (88-90 2MHz FM) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Sarah

Richard Alfinson. 12.00 Katrina Leskanich. 3.00 - 4.00 Mo Dutta.

Radio 3
(\$0.2-92 4MHz FM) 6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterworks.
10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Poulenc. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concart. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 4.00 Epipharry Carol Servica. 5.00 In Turte. 7.30 Performance on 3. See Choice, above. 9.15 Postscript. 9.35 Stravinsky Conducts Stravinsky.
10.00 Ensemble. 10.45 Night Waves. 11.30 Jazz. Notes. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Saint-Saens.
1.00 - 6.00 Through the Night.

on the host country. From Haringey Civic Centre, North London, 8.45 Letters of Complaint. 9.00 News Animals Behaving Badly, 9.30 Midweek, 10.00 The World Tonight, 10.45 Book at Badlime, Nana, 11.00 Sean Lock's 15 Minutes of Misery, 11,15 For One Hornible Mornant, 11.30 The Chesse Shop Present, 12.00 News, 12.30 The Late Book: The Restraint of

(63, 303kf-; MW) 6,00 Breakfast, 9,00 Nicky Campbell.

12.00 The Middey News, 1,00 Ruscos and Co. 4,00
Drive, 7,00 News Edra, 7,30 John Inverdal's Football
Night, 10,00 Littlejohn, 11,00 Late Asght Live, 1,00 Up
Al Night, 5,00 - 6,00 Morning Reports.

World Service Radio
1984-1: LW, 1,00 Newsdesk, 1,30 Omnibus, 2,00
Newsday, 2,30 Meridian (Books), 3,00 World News,
3,05 World Business Report, 3,15 Sports Roundup,
3,30 Top Brain, 4,00 - 7,00 Tha World Today.

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THURSDAY

CHOICE OF ALL French Impressionists. **Edouard Manet**

6.30 Scott Mills. 8.39 SCOZ muss.

Radio 2
(38-90 Chi-t; Ft.) 6.00 Alex Lester. 7.30 Serah
Kennedy. 9.30 Ken Bruce. 12.00 Jimmy Young. 2.00
Ed Stewart. 5.05 Johnnie Walker. 7.00 David Allan.

10.30 Arists of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. See Choice, above. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Poulenc. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert. 2.00 The BSC Orchestras. 4.00 Ensemble, 4.45 Music Machine. 5.00 in Tune. 7.30 Per

Afternoon Play: The Head of Medusa, 3.00 News; Cell You and Yours: 0171 580 4444, 3.30 The Melting Pot.

Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast. 5.45 Prayer for the Day. 5.47 - 6.00 Farming Today. Radio 4 LW (1961-bt.) 9.45 - 10.00 Daily Service. 12.00 - 12.04 News; Shipping. 5.54 - 5.57 Shipping Forecast. Radio 5 Live. 693 909-bt. 1.00 Breaklast. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 12.00 The Midday News. 1.00 Ruscoe and Co. 4.00 Drive. 7.00 News Edra. 7.30 Hardest Game. 8.00 Inside Edge. 9.00 Hoops. 9.30 Sportshop. 10.00 Late Night Live. 1.00 Up All Night. 5.00 - 8.00 Morning Reports.

World Service Read (1984 to LW) 1.00 Newsdesk, 1.30 Composer of the Month, 2.00 Newsdesy, 2.30 Focus on Feith, 3.00 World News, 3.05 Business Report, 3.15 Sports Roundup, 3.30 Assignment, 4.00 - 7.00 World Today.

FRIDAY

CHOICE

and American III cinema and

Radio 1 (97.6-99 8MH; FM) 6.30 Zoe Ball. 9.00 Simon Mayo. 12.00 Kevin Greening, 2.00 Mark Redciffe. 4.00 Chris Mayles. 6.00 Pete Tong's Essential Selection. 9.00 Judge Jules. 11.00 Westwood - Radio 1 Rap Show. 2.00 Fablio and Grooverider. 4.00 - 7.00 Emma B. Radio 2

(90.2-92.4MHz FM) **6.00 On Air. 9.00 Masterwork** 10.30 Artist of the Week. 11.00 Sound Stories. 12.00 Composer of the Week: Poulenc. 1.00 The Radio 3 Lunchtime Concert, 2,00 The BBC Orchestras, 4,00 Music Restored, 4.45 Music Machine, 5.00 in Tune, 7.30 Periomence on 3. 9.10 Postsorior, 9.30 Chantz Flute Sonstas, 10.00 Hear and Now, 11.30 Jazz Century, 12.00 BBC Symphony Orchestra, 1.00 - 6.00

Sporing President College (1200 News, 1230 Hipping Forecast, 1.00 As World Service, 5.30 World News, 5.35 Shipping Forecast, 5.40 Inshore Forecast, 5.45 Prayer for the Day, 5.47 Leisure Update, 5.56 - 6.00 Weather, Radio 4 LW

TE

THURSDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (29668), 7.00 News (T) (45687), 9.00 Kilroy (S)(T) (8830533). 9.45 The Vanessa Show (S)(T) (5376303), 10.55 News (T) (7179397), 11.00 Real Rooms (S) (7252674). 11.25 Carit Cook, Worlt Cook (S)(T) (7159533). 11.55 News (T) (1455129). 12,00 Call My Bluff (S) (36736). 12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (S)(T) (54620), **1.00** News (T) (48674). **1.30** Regional News (86863533). **1.40** Neighbours (S)(T) (65550649). **2.05** Ironside (R) (7836823). 2.55 Going for a Song (S) (8738378), 3.20 The Weather Show (S)(T) (2232129).

3.25 Children's BBC; Playdays (R)(S) (8124638), 3.45 The Littlest Pet Shop (S) (9238281), 3.55 Pocket Dragon Adventures (S)(T) (9234465). **4.05** Rugrats (S)(T) (6191552). **4.20** Home Farm Twins (S)(T) (6285945). 4.35 Short Change (S)(T) (1895465). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (5632194). 5.10 See How They Run (S)(T) (6772649).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (274397).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (129).

6.30 Regional News (1) (281).

7.00 Watchdog (S)(T) (1216). 7.30 EastEnders (S)(T) (465).

8.00 Vets in Practice. The new series starts with a crisis for Trude (S)(T) (4736).

8.30 Fat Free. Six-part documentary exploring the nation's obsession with food, diet and body image (S)(T) (6571).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (8397). 9.30 CHDICE Braveheart (1995). Mel

Gibson stars as the Scottish warrior William Wallace. See Choice, below (S)(T) (78877200).

12-20 Faces of Islam (S) (8969137) 12.40 A Professional Gun (1970).

Spaghetti western (492953).

2,25 BBC News 24 (89538953), **5,40** Faces of Islam (S) (3924088). To 6am.

BBC2

7.00 Children's BBC: Open a Door (R) (5658891). 7.05 Teletubbies (S) (2105668), **7.30** Yogi's Treasure Hunt (R) 2498755), 7.50 Blue Peter (S)(T) (3053620), **8.20** Taz-Mania (9021620), 8.40 Polica Dot Shorts (9829705) 8.55 Open a Door (R) (6492842), 9.00 Flooley Foodle Bird (7306858), 9.10 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (6638465). 9.35 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (5016991) 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (29007).

10.30 FILM Cervantes (1967). Historical biopic drama (95842).

12.30 Working Lunch (52262), 1.00 Fiddley Foodle Bird (R)(S) (73841378), 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2659620),

240 World Darts. Action from yesterday's second-round matches (S) (92515246).

6.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine. Sci-fi drama series (S)(T) (276587).

6.45 Stiders. Sci-fi drama (S)(T) (670674).

7.30 First Sight (197). 8.00 The Travel Show, Julet Morris

plores Gran Canaria (S) (2378).

8.30 Jeremy Clarkson's Extreme Machines (R)(S)(T) (4113).

9.00 Meet the Ancestors. Archaeologist Julian Richards investigates an Anglo Saxon warrior's grave found at the United States Air Base at Lakenheath in Suffolk (S) (6939).

9.30 Fat Files. Documentary examining the phenomenon of dieting and staying sim. Scientists discuss the common-held belief that faults in chemicals in the brains of children who have become obese can explain why some of us are born to be fat (S)(T) (123045).

10.20 Meetings with Remarkable Trees (R)(S) (336002).

10.30 Newsnight (T) (976823).

11.15 World Darts (S) (768026). **12.00** Phil Silvers Show (R) (95779). To 12.30am.

THURSDAY CHOICE

OKAY SO director/star Mel Gibson may

have played fast and loose with historical accuracy, but Braveheart (9.30pm BBC1, left) is a powerful account

of the stirring deeds carried out by Scottish folk-hero William Wallace against the evil English invaders of the late 13th century. Gibson fully merited his Best Director Oscar, if only for the bravura

choreography of some of the bloodiest

battle-scenes ever committed to film. Excellent support comes from Sophie Marceau and Patrick McGoohan

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (6035858), 9.25 Trisha (2297484). 10.25 This Morning (62716755). **12-20** Granada News (6146755), **12,30** News (52216), 1.00 Home and Away (60842). 1.30 Jerry Springer (9168910). 2.15 Ernmerdale (653484). 2.45 Supermarket Sweep (652755). 3.15 News (2157484), 3.20 Granada News (2154397).

3.25 Children's ITV: Mogatop's Shop (T) (2137620). 3.35 The Adventures of Dawdle (S) (8696842). 3.45 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries (T) (8673378). 4.00 Lavender Castle (T) (6194649). 4.45 Dexter's Laboratory (T) (6738692). 4.40 Worst Witch (S)(T) (7270755), **5.10** Home and Away (S)(T) (3551246), **5.40** News (T) (248587).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (654216), 6.50 Live Challenge 99 Update (696858).

7.00 Enumerdale (S)(T) (3484).

7.30 The Crazy World of Joe Pasquale. Cornedy (S)(T) (533).

8.00 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Quiz show (S)(T) (9804).

8.30 Neighbours from Hell (1) (8939).

9.00 The Knock. Drama about Customs investigators returns for a six-part series. A new chief, David Ancrom, played by Mark Lawis, quickly wins a reputation for being tough and arrogant (S)(T) (7129).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (22533).

10.30 Granada News (T) (275736).

10.40 Thursday Night Live (7567020).

Sky Prothler 6.00 (1867) (2008), 8.00 Green Card 6.00 (186). Use a Men (1867) (2008), 8.00 Green Card 1860 (1860), 70.00 Prog and Marchael 1869 (1869), 12600, 12600 (1860), 70.00 Pro Directors, (2008), 5.00 Green Card (1800), 670129, 200 Men. Like a Men (1807) (18575), 3.46 Fring and Northeal (1868) (1859), 5.50 Green Card (1800) (1912), 7.00 (1807), 12600,

18079. 4.00 - 8.00 Desporats Tol (1994) (1972).

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89 Seery Str. (1944) (1922)33, 8.00 Speibound*
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1230 Alex and the Gypey (1939) (2044)33, 1.50 Under
the Victoria (1946) (1930)32, 3.45 The Lenan (1949)

12.10 Public Morals (S) (5890088). 12.45 Jerry Springer (7923359). **1.30** Pirate TV (51972). **2.00** Real Stories of the Highway Patrol (9114934). **2.20** ITV at the Belfort Festival (6821779). 3.15 Cybernet (62348048). 3.40 Potty about Pets (14457224). 4.10 Soundtrax (R)(S) (60605088). 4-20 Nightscreen 334311). **5.30** Morning News (83934).

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (12378). 7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (65397). 9.00 The Cosby Show (R)(1) (2867151).

9.35 The House on Telegraph Hill (1951). Creepy melodrama, with Valentina Cortesa (T) (44346200).

11.15 Roots to Success (6655842). 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (5200). 12.00 Sesame Street (25674). 12.30 Bewitched (50858). 1.00 Pet Rescue (68484).

1.30 Untamed (1965). Colonial adventure starring Tyrone Power and Susan Hayward (T) (53216).

3.30 The Hampton Court Palace (1) (755). **4.00** Fifteen to One (S)(1) (262). **4.30** Countdown (S)(1) (1889804). **4.55** Ricki Lake (S)(T) (4990262).

5.30 Pet Rescue (S)(T) (246).

6.00 Dishes. New game show mixing cookery and romance (1) (939).

6.30 Holfyoaks (S)(T) (991).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (475/36).

7.55 Cuban Faces (361465).

8.00 Secret History (R)(S)(T) (2007)

9.00 Dispatches. Examining the growing problem of domestic violence (T) (5571). 10.00 Rising Damp (FI)(T) (26303).

10.30 Cold Turkey. Documentary focusing

on one of the great seasonal institutions - the office Christmas party (257200). 11.05 Ally McBeal (R)(S)(T) (951129), 12.00 Oz (5911972), 1.05 Vids (3444311), 1.40 Tableau d'armour (R) (8354243), 1.45 For the Love of Paith (709953).

2.45 The Connivers (7000717).

340 The Man in the Gray Flannel Suit (1956). Gregory Peck

stars in this film soap (71042088). 5.35 The Pink Panther Show (7378069).

SATELLITE & CABLE

8378, 7.90 Futbol Mundel (SMS, 8.00 Sparrich Foot-bal (19858, 19.00 Sty Sports Centra (86452), 10.35 You're on Sky Sports (80045), 18.45 Trans World Sport 49473, 14.46 Sky Sports Centra (8765), 2.000 You're on Sky Sports (8775), 12.30 Footbal Langua (8058), 1,00 Sparrich Footbal (1983), 3.00 Trans World Sport (877), 4.30 Sky Sports Centra (855873), 4.35 Case.

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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (7068113). 7.00 WideWorld (T) (9236216). 7.30 Mileshakel (S) (2851179). 7.35 Wirnzie's House (R) (9967129). 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (1227620). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (1226991). 9.00 Animal House (2903303). 9.25 Postcards (4932858). 9.30 Oprah Winfrey (6686465). 10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2284113). 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (2(71939), 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (1237007), 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (9003736), 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (9235567), 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9002007), 2.00 100 Per Cent (S) (6423007), 2.30 Good

3.30 Hill 92 Grosvenor Street (1985). Second World War adventure

Afternoon (S) (4615571).

5.20 Sunset Beach (6248991).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (5457216).

6.30 Family Affairs. Chris makes the big announcement that he and Annie are getting divorced (S)(T) (5375668).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (6427823).

7.30 Champions of the Wild. Profile of a conservationist whose ranch in Kenya is home to more than a hundred black and white rhinos (\$)(1) (5364552).

8.00 Survivor. Real-life story of how a group became lost in the sands of the Sahara (R)(S)(T) (5695620).

9.00 **Film** The Ultimate Lie (1996). Kristin Davis stars as the rebellious teenage daughter of law-school dean Michael Murphy in this melodrama with Blair Brown. (S)(T) (52308804).

10.40 Sex and Shopping. The series about porn around the world tackles the boom in amateur pom movies (S) (3575823).

11.10 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (8129129). **11.50** Live and Dangerous (1838200). **12.30** Live and Dangerous (S) (17614330). **4.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (R)(S) (3190068). 5.30 100 Per Cent (6356363). To 6am.

LIK Gold

Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (7035885), 7.00 WideWorld (9130088). 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (6746361). 7.35 Winzie's House (9854601).

8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (1294392). 8.30

Dappledown Farm (1293663), 9.00 Floyd Uncorked (2807175), 9.25 Postcards

(4829330). 9.30 Oprah Wintrey (6653137).

10.20 Sunset Beach (S) (225/885). 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (213/31). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (1204779). 12.30 Farmity Affairs (R)(S)(T) (9070408). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (9139359). 1.30 The Rosearm's Show (9079779). 2.00 100

Per Cent Gold (S) (6490779). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (4682243).

3.30 Can You Feel Me Dancing? (1986). Justine Bateman stars in this true-

life drama (66785330).

6.00 100 Per Cent (5351088).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (6494595).

spies (1) (25377048).

(9668069).

5.35 Sunset Beach (S) (8973214).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(1) (5335040).

7.30 Champions of the Wild (T) (5331224).

8.00 Was It Good for You? More stories

from holidaymakers (S) (6403243).

8.30 Holiday Park. Series following the capers of holidaymakers at the Fabulous

9.00 FILM Passport to Murder (1992). Socialite Connie Seleca is pursued by

10.45 The People vs Jerry Sadowitz. Unusual talk show (4853156).

11.15 Emmanuelle (1974). Sylvia Kristel stars in this soft-focus erotica

1.05 Road to Ruin (1991). Homentic cornedy with Peter Weller (S) (7397199).

4.20 The Road (23007422), 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (3150460), 5.30 100 Per Cent

2.45 Strange and Rich (1994). Police drama (1834)51).

(R)(S) (6902925). To 6am.

Forchunter caravan park (S)(T) (6482750).

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6.00 Business Breakfast (70972). **7.00** News (T) (49779). **9.00** Kiroy (S)(T) (8807205). 9.45 The Vanessa Show (5270175). 10.55 News (T) (7146069) Song (S) (8798750), 3.20 The Weather Show (S)(T) (2129601).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (6924250). 3.45 Spider (R) (9214601). 3.50 Smart (8630663). 4.05 Rugrats (R) (S) (T) (9793863). 4.30 L and K Friday (S) (1863866). 4.55 Newsround Extra (S) (T) (18720001). (1257311), **5.40** Blue Peter (1) (8732021).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (819040).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (359).

7.00 Celebrity Ready, Steady, Cook. Culinary challenge (S)(T) (7408). 7.30 Top of the Pops (S)(T) (595).

8.00 Vets in Practice (S)(T) (6156).

8.30 A Question of Sport (S)(T) (5663)

for the first in a new series of chat shows with Gerl Halliwell, Carol Vorderman and Dawn French (S)(T) (502408).

refuctant partners in this action-comedy (S) (972069)

12.10 The Stand-Up Show (S) (5123557). 12.40 The Big End (S) (51698-17).

140 The Beast in the Cellar (1971). Homor film (9271828).

To 7am.

BBC2 7.00 Hairy Jeremy (R)(S) (4994363), 7.05 Teletubbles (2165040), 7.30 Yogis Hunt (2465427), 7.50 Short Change (3020392). 8.20 Taz-Mania (9098392). 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (3124917). 8.55 Hairy Jeremy (6469514). 9.00 Johnson and Friends (7293330). 9.10 Phil Silvers Show (6605137), **9.35** Phil Silvers Show (5083663) **10.00** Teletubbles (56755).

10.30 FILM Sinbad the Sailor (1947). Douglas Fairbanks stars in this colourful cornic fantasy (65462934).

12.20 The Art (6119601), 12.30 Working Lunch (10866), 1.00 Johnson and Friends (R)(S) (73801750), 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2626392), 2.10 World Darts (S) (26810458),

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (870427).

6.20 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (874243).

6.45 Robot Wars (S) (829156). 7:15 Electric Circus (S)(T) (794953).

7.30 Country House. A year in the life of Woburn Abbey (S)(T) (137).

8.00 Gardening from Scratch 2. Experts offer advice and tips (R)(S) 8.30 Garden Stories. The British passions

for gardening (S)(T) (3205). 9.00 CHOICE Girame Girama Gira A new cornedy about two flatmates. See Choice, below (S)(T) (1069).

9.30 Bang, Bang, It's Reeves and Mortimer. Irreverent sketches from the manic comedy duo (5)(1) (23330).

10-00 The Young Ones (R)(T) (86311).

10**-30 Newsnight** (T) (526866). 11.15 Young Guns Go for It! (S) (192514). 11.45 World Darts (S) (650224).

12.30 [3] Mo' Better Blues (1990). Jazzman Denzel Washington leaves a brace of unhappy ladies in his wake. (S)(T) (16830847). To 240am.

6.00 GMTV (6922330), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (226456), 10.25 This Morning (T) (226480). 10.25 Ins Morring (1) (82783427). 12.20 Granada News (1) (6113427). 12.30 News (1) (93232). 1.00 Home and Away (5)(1) (97934). 1.30 Jerry Springer (5)(1) (9135682). 2.15 Emmerdale (R)(5)(1) (212717). 2.45 Dates Supermarket Sweep (5)(1) (211088). 3.45 News (T) (2124156). 3.20

3.25 Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (1) (2104392), 3.35 Timbuctoo (9210885). 3.40 Animal Stories (R)(S) (9291750). 3.50 Adam's Family Tree (8683717). 4.20 Gladiators: Train 2 Win (R)(T) (9790576). 4.50 Top Ten of Everything (9383040). 5.40 Home and Away (5) (7) (7856458). 5.40 News; Weather (1) (701682).

7.00 Bruce's Price Is Right (S)(T) (2576).

7.30 Coronation Street (S)(T) (663). 8.00 Who Wants to be a Millionaire?

9.00 Catherine Cookson's Titiy Trotter.
Carl Norris plays Cookson's most popular heroine in a four-part sation of the first book in the Tilly

10.00 News: Weather (1) (80137)

10.30 Granada News (T) (678243).

10.40 Friday Night's All Wright. Lively chat show (S) (916972).

12.40 FIM Revolver (1992). International security is at risk unless FBI agant Robert Unich can save the day (678002). 2.15 Box Office America (9193441). 2.40

Channel 4

11.10 Roots to Success (6623243), **11.25** Collectors' Lot (7794717). 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (7530). 12.00 Sesame

Earthscape (79207750). 1.35 The Wrong Man (1956). Henry Fonda stars as a man wrongly

3.30 The Hampton Court Palace (T) (885). 4.00 Fifteen to One Highlights (R)(S)(T) (392). 4.30 Countdown (S)(T) (1856576). 4.55 Fickl Lake (T) (4967934).

5.30 Pet Rescue (S)(T) (156).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (466697), 7.55 The Revolutionaries (941069). 8.00 The Lost Gardens of Heligan. Re-run garden restoration (R)(T) (9866).

8.30 Brookside (S)(T) (1601).

9.00 Friends (R)(S)(T) (6137).

10.00 Presier (S)(T) (88779), 10.30 Eurotrash (S)(T) (809243), 11.05 King of the Hill (T) (979791), 11.35 TFI Friday (415576), 12.40 The Divine David Presents (3485422), 1.15

Count Dracula? (1970). Dracula's son hunts for a new bride (582064).

345 Circus of Fear (1967). Laughable melodrama. (94)5267).

SATELLITE & CABLE

86, 5.30 Max Power (1996)717), 6.30 Word 1269098, 7.50 Path TV (17235)87, 8.00 rding (17244888), 9.00 Dancing (17234)87), Westing (17248882), 172,00 Class UK Gold 2.00 Countreds (652507) 7.20 No. Global 2.00 Countreds (652507) 7.20 No. Global 2.00 Countreds (652507) 7.20 No. Global 2.00 The 69 653560, 8.00 The 69 653560, 8.00 The 69 653560, 8.00 The 69 653560, 8.00 The 69 653500, 9.00 Delay 1.00 Delay 1.0 UK Gold Paramount Comedy Channel
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FRIDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

11.00 Real Rooms (S) (7156446). 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S)(T) (7126205). Cant Cook, Wont Cook (S)(1) (7/26205).

11.55 News (1) (1342601). 12.00 Call
My Buff (S) (87040). 12.30 Bettersea
Dogs' Home (S)(1) (12224). 1.00 News
(42866). 1.30 Regional News (36830205).
1.40 Neighbours (S)(1) (65510021). 2.05
tronside (F) (7803598). 2.55 Going for a
Spon (S) (87987508). 2.07 The Weather

6.30 Regional News (T) (311).

9.00 News; Weather (T) (3427). 9.30 Parkinson. Michael Parkinson is back

10.25 Bird on a Wire (1990). Exlovers Mel Gibson and Goldie Hawn are

2.35 Johns BBC News 24 (21508083).

FRIDAY CHOICE YOU MIGHT already have heard about Jonathan Harvey's highly promising new

ITV Granada

Granada News (1) (2121069).

5.55 Granada Tonight (1) (9488601).

Quiz show (S)(T) (1224). 8.30 Neighbours from Heli (1) (7589).

Trotter trilogy (S)(T) (3779).

ti-30 Pulp: a Feeling Called Live (S)

seeQuest DSV (R)(S) (6050783). 3.35 The Haunted Fishtank (R) (14425625). 4.05 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (2987996), 4.55 ITV Nightscreen (1904977), 5.30 Morning News (34248). To 6am.

6.00 Sesame Street (63682). **7.00** The Big Breakfast (S) (65717). **9.00** The Cosby Show (R)(T) (6162363).

9.35 IIII I Can Get It for You Wholesale (1951). Fashion-industry melodrama (T) (81336595).

Street (70750), 12-30 Bewitched (93214). 1.00 Pet Rescue (35576), 1.30

identified as a thief (1) (20396595)

6.00 TFI Friday (S) (13953).

9.30 Streetmate. Davina McCall plays Cupid on the streets of Dublin and Greenwich (T) (25798).

Monsters a Go-Gogo (98064). 1.45 Guess What Happened to

4.35 Dweets (R)(S) (48190248), **5.00** Pearl (1918354), **5.35** 2 Stupid Dogs (7338441). To 6am.

ITV/Regions

Ampiles
As Granata compets 12.20 Argie News
(613427). 1.00 Upartit (37834. 1.30 Horns and
Assy (4573). 2.00 Juny Springer Show (2007885).
3.20 Argie News (22058). 5.00 Shortland Sever
(788458). 6.00 Horns and Assy (78908). 6.25
Angle News (25058). 10.30 Angle News (72943).
11.30 Part. in Partit of Horns (5494). 1.30 Short
Slovy (5558). 2.00 The Hautisch Philistric (7295).
3.20 Beyeach (620587). 3.20 These (62295).
4.55 Soundray (2305908). 4.35 (TV Nejrisonen Verensen).
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Conting La Granada estregita 12.20 Central Neve 6759-27, 1.00 With You Ware Hera. 7 67594, 2.8 forms and Away (2277). 3.20 Central Neve 227593, 6.30 Shortland Street (7554-56; 6.00 come and Away (765068, 6.35 Central Neve 656763; 92.30 Central Neve (676243, 11.30 The 7072 (2274), 22.00 Short Short (65702, 4.05 Colinion (656568), 5.20 Asian Sye (4440739).

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COMPANY LAST CRIPTS (SIRES) \$1.30 HTV News (SIRES), \$1.30 HTV SIRES, \$1.30 H

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Sky Premier
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hars Aure, 1959, 67953. 4.00 The Domber Boys
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2.30 Barry Norman (757). 8.00 Ster The: Fart
Contact (959) 98509, 10.00 The Creating Gazer
(859, 678279). 11.30 Dead Man Welding (1952,
6346027), 1.34 Hotel Sorrano (959, 82395).
2.50 - 6.00 Bourly Humber (1959, 67527248). on Sty Sports (SESS) 183,00 Sportsh Football (SESS) 2.20 Arminis (SET78) 4.20 February (SET78) 4.00 Welsend (SES3) 4.30 February (SET78) 4.00 Welsend (SES3) 4.30 February 2.46 2.00 Repty (SES9) 4.30 Werld Sport (A46) 8.40 February (SES9) 4.30 Werld Sport (A46) 8.00 February (SES9) 4.30 Welsend (From Control of Section (SES) 9.001 (FT8) 4.00 Welsend (SES9) 4.30 Vertall Sport (FT8) 4.00 Back Repty (SET78) 4.00 Centre (SES9) 4100 Back Repty (SET78) 4.00 Centre (SES9) 4100 Back Repty (SET78) 4.00 Centre (SES9) 4100 Back Repty (SET78) 4.00 Centre (SES9) 4.00 Centre (SES77) 5.00 - 6.00 Dancing (SES78) sitcom Gimme, Gimme, Gimme (9pm BBC2, left). It concerns two flatmates - one a gay man, the other a straight woman - who 3.50 - 4.00 Bounty Hunters (1959) (\$7527,243]
Sky Movie Blank
ZDO A Message from Hedy (1952) \$2507, 8.00
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of the Deep (1956) (1944), 1.00 A Message from
Hedy (1952) \$2590, 3.00 Copies Summir (1958)
6755, 3.50 A Long Way Frome (1958) (1950) 7.00
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Sky Sports 2

2.00 Ambox (97256) 7.20 Carse (930/30)

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2.45 Carter (97250) 2.50 This Line (496430)

10.00 to Hoday 5469030, 12.30 Moor Sport

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972093 1.30 Cod (972500) 2.30 Mod Sport

1/2000 1.30 MOO (172407) 91.00 With Sports

1/2000 1.30 MOO (17240 Jerry Hall", while James Dreylus is Tom, an out-of-work actor who likes to enact scenes from Cosualty. It's refreshingly rude and loud and unafraid of whose toes it might be: treading on. Tom is a gross caricature (as is Linda), but at least he doesn't rely on camp 12.30 Hydranov po-Sky Sports 1 8.30 Rules (273) 280 Centre (203529, 235 Wresting (20301) 8.35 Centre (443579, 8.30 York Wresting (20301) 8.36 Centre (443579, 8.30 York double entendres.

ITV/Region BBC1

00 Business Breakfast (83650), 7.00 Navs (1) (36679), 9.00 Kiroy (5) (1) gg/9389, 9.45 The Vanessa Show (T) 5348259, 10.55 News (T) (7208853) 14.00 Real Rooms (S) (7218230), 11.25 Can't Cook, Worlt Cook (7295389). 11.55 News (T) (141785) 12.00 Call My Buff (S) (8276) 12.30 Bettersea Dogs Horne (S) (T) (32292) 1.00 News (T) 29786) 1.30 Regional News (86909389) 1.40 Neighbours (S) (T) (65689105) 2.05 tronside (R) (7972679), 2.55 Going for a Song (S) (8867834). 3.20 The Weather Show (S)(T) (2298785).

3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (5570114), 3.45 The Enchanted Lands (A)(S) (9374037). 3.55 Hububb (S) (8708018). 4.10 Chipmunks Go to the Movies (R)(S)(T) (6534899), 4.35 The Really Wild Show (S)(T) (1924921). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (5761650), 5.10 See How They Plun (S)(T) (680f105).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (136921).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (969).

6.30 Regional News (T) (921).

7.00 Holiday (S) (1056).

7.30 EastEnders T(S)(T) (105).

8.00 GHOGE Weight of the Nation. Date Winton launches the BBC's "Fighting Fat, Fighting Fit" campaign. See Choice, below (S)(1) (3747).

9.00 News; Weather (T) (8327).

9.30 Paddington Green (S)(T) (52056).

10.00 The New Year Storms - a 999 Special (S)(1) (22/871).

10.40 Crystal Balls (S) (#3650).

11.20 Seduced by Evil (1994, Banal mystery with Suzanne Somers (S) (313308).

12.45 TIM Death of a Cheerleader (1994). True-life telectramatics with Kelie Martin (S)(T) (810051).

215 Joins BBC News 24 (79559896). To 6am

BBC2

7.00 The Little Polar Bear (R)(S) (3540227). 7.05 Teletubbies (S) (2234124), **7.30** Yog's Treasure Hurtt (R)(S) (2527211), **7.50** Blue Peter (S) (3199476), **8.20** Taz-Mania (9167476). 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (S) (8446259). 8.50 The Little Polar Bear (R)(S) (8435143). 9.00 Oakle Doke (7362414) 9.10 The Phil Silvers Show (6767921). 9.35 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (5152747). 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (90389).

10.30 Elimin Monsieur Verdoux (1947). Charlie Chaplin as a wite-killer in a bold mix of pathos and cynicism (1) (91650).

12.30 Working Lunch (30834) 1.00 Oakle Doke (R)(S) (73970834) 1.90 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2795476) 2.10

5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (698).

6.00 Fresh Prince of Bel Air (104698).

World Darts (S) (98302921).

6.20 Heartbreak High (S)(T) (266619). 7.10 The O Zone (S) (642655).

7.30 From the Edge (S)(T) (747).

8.00 University Challenge (S)(I) (5018). 8.30 Rick Stein's Seafood Odyssey. Stein celebrates the seafood of Naples.

Southwold and finds fresh brown shrimps in the River Thames. First of a

memories of Eric and Ernie in the early days of their great comedy partnership

9.30 Great Railway Journeys. lan Histop discovers India by travelling by rail from Calcutta, the former capital of the British Raj, to the romantic desert forts of sthan (S) (836679).

10,20 Trade Secrets E (R)(S) (909766).

10.30 Newsnight (1) (845747)

11.25 World Darts (S) (644230). **12.00** The Phil Silvers Show (R) (59761). To 12.30am.

TUESDAY CHOICE

DALE WINTON launches "Fighting Fat,

Fighting Fit", the BBC's dieting season,

said to be the channel's biggest ever

health campaign with Weight of the

Nation (8pm BBC1, left). Here Winton oversees a team of "fat-busters", who

tackie other people's weight problems. Five men from a social club committee in

Birmingham who enjoy a diet of beer and

baltis own up to frequently losing the fight

against flab. They realised they had to do something when club members "started calling us the Teletubbies". Good luck.

ITV Granada

TUESDAY TELEVISION

6.00 GMTV (6091414). 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2326940). 10.25 This Morning (1) (62845211). **12.20** Granada Ne (6275211). **12.30** News (T) (27360). **1.00** Home and Away (S)(T) (24834). 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (9204766), 2.15 Coronation Street (R)(T) (522308). 2.45 Dale's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (\$21679). 3.15 News Headlines (T) (2286940). 3.20 Granada News (T) (2283853).

3.25 Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (T) (2273476). 3.35 Flosie and Jim (S) (8706650). 3.50 The Wombles (S) (9366018). 4.00 Cow and Chicken (T) (9881872). **4.25** Mike and Angelo (S)(T) (7784132). 4.50 How II (S)(T) (9462124). 5.40 Home and Away (S)(T) (6380762). 5.40 News; Weather (T) (578871).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (9557785).

7.00 Emmerdale (S)(T) (6124).

7.30 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Quiz show (S)(T) (501).

8.00 The Bill (T) (1143).

9.00 Peak Practice. The Beeches surgery opens again with a new face - Dr Joanna Graham (Haydn Gwynne). She joins in time to help Dr Attwood (Gary Mavers) in a battle to save a friend's life after a car smash (S)(T) (8679).

10.00 News: Weather (T) (26143).

10.30 Granada News (T) (160698).

10.40 Full Frontal in Filip Flops. A variety of British naturists expose their lifestyles (S)(T) (953105).

11.40 FILM The China Syndrome (1979). Reporter Jane Fonda sniffs a scoop when she meets twitchy nuclear plant worker Jack Lemmon (T) (90631414).

2.05 The Haunted Fishtank (9266341). 2.30 Highlander (R) (6132341). 3.20 Wish You Were Here...? (S)(T) (62944047). 3.45 Nationwide Football League Extra (683709), **4.45** ITV Nightscreen (5760099), **5.30** Morning News (87544), To 6am.

Sky Premier
6.00 Plaus Perior (1995) (5233343), 245 Moby Dick.
1997) (5235220), 525 The Long Wals Home (1990)
697(20), 525 The Directors (4900)), 425 Hollywhood
6.cz (577335), 1,50 The Print Center (1997)
(750736)), 3,55 Pourse Print (1996) (47872), 5,50
Moby Dick (1997) (47037), 3,00 The Print Benneri
(1997) (2594), 10,000 Lust Man Standing (1996)
(25958), 11,45 Another 48 His (1990) (1982), 1,50
Blood and Wins (1997) (1997), 3,00 Turner (1997)
(20059), 4,35 × 6,00 The Directors (1977)(157)

Chart Microsophillow

(205936, 4.36 - 6.00 The Dreadon's Services)

Sky Movine Max.

7.00 3 Women (err) (70037) 9.00 Recides Alghts
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Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (29389). 9.00 | The Cosby Show (R)(T) (5718227).

9.35 Phone Call from a Stranger (1952). Contrived tale (T) (14482056).

11.15 Earthscape (R) (6791698). 11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (R)(S)(T) (5230), **12.00** Sesame Street (23056), **12.30** Bewitched (R) (58230), **1.00** Pet Rescue (R) (S) (T) (22476), **1.30** Roots to

1.50 The Fallen Idot (1948). Ralph Richardson as a butter idolsed by an ambassador's son (T) (61813921).

3.30 The Hampton Court Palace (T) (495). **4.00** Fifteen to One (R)(\$)(T) (230). **4.30** Countdown (\$)(T) (1918360). **4.55** Ricki Lake (\$)(T) (4036018). **5.30** Pet Rescue (\$)(T) (766).

6.00 King of the Hill (R)(S)(T) (679).

6.30 Home Improvement (T) (259)

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (337360). 7.55 Cuban Faces (268940).

8.00 Brookside S)(1) (3414).

8.30 Classic Aircraft (T) (2921). 9.00 Cutting Edge (R)(S) (9921).

10.00 Father Ted (R)(S)(T) (24785), 10.30 Bob and Margaret (32655). **11.00** Trial and Error (\$)(T) (32853).

12.00 FILM Women and Men: Three Stories of Seduction (1990). Classy tele-compendium (T) (100693).

1.35 Double Entente. Erotic drama (5925467).

1.50 FILM The Pleasure Seekers (1964). Ann-Margret sings in this remake of Three Coins in the Fountain (284186).

3.50 Whispers. Film short (R)(S) (83854728)

SATELLITE & CABLE

Power (1854), 12.00 Aerobits (1978), 12.80 V-Max (1858), 1.00 Frostals (1978), 2.30 Spanish Frodhal (1978), 1.00 Windsuring (1978), 1.00 Windsuring (1978), 1.00 Windsuring (1977), 1.00 Carrier (2016, 1.30 Scottaf Froshal (1977), 1.30 Say Sports Ceres (1976), 10.55 Years (1978), 1.00 Carrier (1976), 10.55 Years (1976), 1.00 Say Sports Ceres (1976), 10.55 Years (1976), 1.00 Say Sports Ceres (1976), 10.55 Years (1976), 1.00 Say Sports (1

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Sky Sports 3 12.00 Westing (1804-455), 1.00 Feb TV (885/4969), 1.30 Feb TV (585/452), 2.00 Eporing Heroes (13257), 3.00 Totalsport (1965/183), 3.30 Motorspor

4.15 FILIN Lady Godiva Rides Again (1951). Mild satirical cornedy (649815). 5.55 Sesame Street (4058544). To 7am.

Channel 5

 5.00 5 News and Sport (S) (7:04969).
 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (9292872).
 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (9207655).
 7.35 Wimzle's House (R) (9923785), 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (1363476). 8.30 Dapoledown Farm (1362747), 9.00 Weather Front (R)(S)(T) (1386327), 9-30 The Oprah Winfrey Show (6715921).

10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2320969). 11.10 Leeza (R)(S) (2200495). 12.00 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (1366563). 12.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (9132292). 1.00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (9291143). 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9131563). 2.00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (6552563). 2.30 Good Afternoon (S) (4751327).

3.30 A Brother's Promise: the Dan Jansen Story (1996). Matt Keeslar plays a speed skater in this true-life drama (S)(T) (9835018).

5.20 Sunset Beach (6384747).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (5413872).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (5404124).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (6563679).

7.30 Champions of the Wild. Story of a woman who has devoted much of her life to studying elephants (S)(T) (5400308).

8.00 Survivor. Tale of a 17-year-old girl who escaped from a blazing plane in the Peruvian jungle (R)(S)(T) (5731476).

9.00 FILM Sweet Temptation. Erotic drama in which a teenage girl's world is torn apart after she has a night of passion with her mother's young boyfriend. With Beverly D'Angelo, Rob Estes (T) (12503360).

10.50 Two. Start of a psychological thriller about a young professor who "loses" an hour of his life and then sees his hands caked with blood (4524921).

11.45 The Jack Docherty Show (S) (1977143), 12.25 Live and Dangerous (S) (7653051). **1.05** Live and Dangerous (S) (51941916). **3.45** Asian Football Show (S) (7777457). **4.40** Prisoner: Cell Block H (3229544). 5.30 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (9207439). To 6am.

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6.00 Business Breakfast (41254), 7.00
News (T) (87883), 9.00 Kiroy (S)(T)
(893671), 9.45 The Vanesa Show
(S)(T) (5309631), 10.55 News (727552)
1.00 Real Rooms (S) (7285902), 11.2 (S)(T) (5309631). 10.55 News (7275525) 11.00 Real Rooms (S) (7285902), 11.25 Can't Cook, Won't Cook (S)(T) (7255761)

Material Openandor comercia (ACC 1,000 (ACC) (ACC) THE SECTION SE 3.25 Children's BBC: Playdays (R)(S) (9875326). **3.45** Little Monsters (S) (9350457). **3.50** ChuckleVision (S) (8367419). 4.10 See It Saw It (S)(T) (1991693). **5.00** Newsround (5738322). **5.10** Blue Peter (S)(T) (6878877). **5.35** Neighbours (S)(T) (788964).

6.30' Regional News (1) (821).

7.00 Money for Old Rope (S) (1308).

200 Changing Rooms (S)(T) (9896).

8.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (T) (610916).

- Luck Stories (S)(1) (939877).

9.00 News; Weather (T) (6167). 9.30 The X Files (S) (750341).

13 N

11:10 Volcano: Fire on the lountain (1996). Ski resort sits on about-to-blow volcano (S) (355815).

The Cassandra Crossing
(977) Hysterical disaster movie with

25

249 Johns BBC News 24 (24970216). To 6am.

BBC2

7.00 Children's BBC: Dily the Dinosaur (R)(S) (7845439). 7.05 Teleutibles (S) (2201896). 7.30 Yog's Treasure Hunt (R) (2594983). 7.50 The Really Wild Show (S) (31645), 8.20 The Heavy War Skill (S) (316645), 8.20 Taz-Mania (913448), 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (6002603), 8.55 Dily the Dinosaur (R)(S) (6598070), 9.00 Brum (7339186), 9.10 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (6734693), 9.35 The Phil Silvers Show (R) (5129419). 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (41693).

10.30 IIIW The Battle of Austerlitz (1960). Historical drama. With Pierre Mondy (42964).

12.30 Working Lunch (81148). **1.00** Brum (R) (73947506). **110** Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2752148). **2.10** World Darts (96379693). 5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (728).

6.00 Star Trek - The Next Generation. Sci-fl drama series (R)(S)(T) (462322).

6.45 Buffy the Vampire Slayer. Teerage drama series (S)(T) (235525). 7.30 Tales from the Riverbank. Natural

history of angling (R)(S)(I) (877). 8.00 Battle of the Sexes. The story of sex

in the animal kingdom (S)(T) (7438). 8.30 Home Front. Tips on buying sofes, turning a drab dining room into a party room and creating the ultimate period bathroom (S)(T) (9273).

9.00 Red Dwarf VL Rimmer and the gang are forced to enter Kryten's electronic mindscape when he contracts a deadly computer virus (R)(S)(T) (4709).

9.30 Clockwatch. Documentary about the Carnforth clock (S)(T) (169457).

9.40 The Flow of Time. Why does a watched kettle never boil? Why does time go faster when we're having fur? The answers are here (S) (384457).

10.20 Trade Secrets # (R)(S) (54449).

10.30 Newsnight (T) (480490).

11.15 World Darts (S) (289983), 12.00 Phil Silvers Show (R) (33303), To 12.30am.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (6068186), 9.25 Trisha (S)(T) (2393612). 10.25 This Morning (T) (2393612): 10.25 This Morning (1) (62812983): 12.20 Granada News (T) (6282983): 12.30 News (T) (42542): 1.00 Home and Away (S)(T) (82438): 1.30 The Jerry Springer Show (S)(T) (8271438): 2.15 Emmerdale (R)(S)(T) (174341): 2.45 Date's Supermarket Sweep (S)(T) (173612): 3.15 News (T) (2253612): 3.20 Granada News (T) (2250625).

3.25 Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (1) (2240148), 3.35 Teddybears (8782070), 3.45 Jumani (1) (8791780), 4.10 Whizziwig (S)(1) (9837051), 4.40 Mad for It (S) (7376983), 5.40 Home and Away (S)(T) (4202934). 5.40 News (696544).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (9524457).

7.00 Emmerdale (S)(T) (8544).

7.30 Coronation Street. Audrey discovers the truth about Alfs insurance (T) (631).

8.00 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Quiz show (S)(T) (4964). 8.30 Police, Camera, Action! Alastai Stewart follows the trail of a runaway

coach on the M1 (T) (3099). 9.00 Survival Special. Documentary following the life of a lioness in Nakuru National Park, Kenya (S)(T) (649).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (51419). 10.30 Granada News (T) (796693).

(T) (65643867).

10.40 Shining Through (1992).
Wer department secretary Metanic Griffith volunteers for undercover duty in Germany in this old-school melodrama. With Michael Douglas and Liam Neeson

1.05 Strangers (1991). Fatal Attraction Australian-Style. With James Healey, Anne Looby (713668).

2.45 Master Class (R) (7108303), 3.40

Cl.b@Vision (R)(S) (9578674). 3.50 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (8349113). 4.45 ITV Nightscreen (5657571). 5.30 News (38858), To 6am. Sixy Promiler
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Channel 4

7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (70693). 9.00 The Cosby Show (R)(T) (61896).

9.30 FILM 10 North Frederick (1958). Gary Cooper in plotding soap (T) (18273).

11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (R)(S)(I) (3070). **12.00** Sesame Street (41032). **12.30** Bewitched (R) (42524). **1.00** Pet Rescue (73780). **1.30** Web (79343506). 1.35 Golden Girl (1951). Mitzi Gaynor belts out songs in musical biopic of Lotta Crabtree (T) (20425051).

3.30 The Hampton Court Palace (T) (525), 4,00 Fifteen to One Highlights (S)(T) (772), 4.30 Countdown (S)(T) (1985032), 4.55 Ricki Lake (T) (4096490).

5.30 Pet Rescue (S)(T) (896).

8.00 Caroline in the City (659254).

6.25 Suddenly Susan (667273).

6.55 Planet Pop (783070). 7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (958099). 7.55 Cuban Faces (803693).

Altinkum (T) (4341).

8.00 Brookside. Jacqui is amazed by Bev's revelations (S)(T) (2506). 8.30 The Real Holiday Show. Davina McCall introduces holidaymakers' video

9.00 Cracker. A potentially explosive situation intensifies as Fitz and the police continue their hunt for the killer of a young boy (R) (T) 1887676121.

diaries of trips to Menorca, Jordan and

11.05 Whose Line is it Anyway? (156051). **11.35** Fidel (T) (253099). **130** Board X (R) (8030228). **140** Footbel Italia (797755). 3,35 Transworld Sport (R) (8326262).

4.30 The Power and the Glory

(1933), Dark melodrama with Spencer

SATELLITE & CABLE

5.45 Animai Alphabet (5826755).

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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (7164341). 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (9269544). 7.30 Mikshakel (S) (3502867). 7.35 Wimzie's House (R) (9990457). 8.00 Havakazoo (R)(S) (133949). 8.30 Dappledown Farm (R)(S) (133949). 9.00 Hot Property (1353099), 9.30 Oprah (6782693), 10.20 (1353)99, 9,30 Opran (6782693), 10,20 Sunset Beach (S) (T) (2380341), 11,10 Leeza (R) (S) (2277167), 12,00 5 News at Noon (T) (1333235), 12,30 Family Affairs (R) (S) (T) (9109964), 1,00 The Bold and the Beautiful (S) (T) (9268815), 1,30 The Rossanne Show (9108235), 2,00 100 Per Cent Gold (S) (6529235), 2,30 Good Afternoon (S) (4728099).

3.30 Joe Dancer - the Big Black Pin (1981). Robert Blake plays undercover detective Joe Dancer, facing a

5.20 Sunset Beach (6351419).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (5480544). 6.30 Pamily Affairs (S)(T) (5471896). 7.00 5 News (S)(1) (6523051).

7.30 Champions of the Wild. Documentary about the campaign to save the Bengal tiger (S)(T) (5460780).

8.00 The Pepsi Chart. Dr Fox presents the latest hits from London's Sound Republic (R)(T) (6549**099**). 8.30 Road Rages. Six-part series starts by weighing up the rival claims of cyclists, motorcyclists and car drivers (S)(1) (6528506).

9.00 Till Those Secrets (1991). Fraught drams in which an artist and former prostitute is pushed over the edge when her husband confesses to an affair. With Blair Brown (S)(1) (52404032).

10.40 Not Melinda's Big Night In. Celebrity chat show, with Gail Porter (S) (3686490).

11.20 Strange Luck (S) (2822693). **12.10** ice Hockey: Vancouver Canucks vs St Louis Blues (S) (89851587). **4.40** Club Class (R)(S) (72706804), **5.05** Move On Up (R)(S) (85856945), **5.30** 100 Per Cent (R)(S) (85856945), **5.30** (R)(S) (2051151). To Sam.

10,00 Sky Sports Classics (40363964), 11,00 The Enertainers (6242631), 11,30 Class()

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STATE OF STATE

11.55 News (T) (1488457), 12.00 Call My Burff (S) (58322), 12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (S) (T) (83506), 1.00 News (80070). 1.30 Regional News (86969761). 1.40 Neighbours (S)(T) (65656877). 2.05 konside (R) (7932051). 2.55 Going for a Song (S) (8834506). 3.20 The Weather Show (S)(T) (2265457).

(43344ff). 4.35 The Wild House (S)(T)

6.00 News; Weather (T) (159). 200 age

> 7.30 GHOIGE Dream House. See Choice, below (S)(T) (235).

8.50 The National Lottery: Amazing

10.15 Jobs for the Boys (S)(1) (263525).

Sophia Loren (T) (46479397).

CAROL VORDERMAN has found berself in the middle of an embarrassing programming clash There she was in ITV this Monday, presenting their answer to Changing Rooms, Better Homes - and now here-she is presenting Dream House (7.30pm BBCL, left) for the Beeb. It's a sort of Home Front meets Tomorrow's World, which, over the next six weeks, will put up a house of the future. Adam Woodyatt from EastEnders is her rather surprising co-presenter, testing various

WEDNESDAY CHOICE

gadgets to go in the putative dream home

To 6am.

Figure Polis*

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6.200 Adults only Broadway (1604) (1614/25), 16140

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SUNDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

7.00 The Pink Panther Show (R) (9200970). 7.20 Touched by an Angel (S)(T) (5233864). **8.05** Match of the Day (S)(T) (5733406). **9.25** News (7846425). 9.30 The Heaven and Earth Show (S) (83999). 10.30 Porridge (R)(1) (94338). 11.00 Match of Their Day: Emlyn Hughes (R)(S) (724). 11.30 CountryFile (S)(T) (8970). 12.00 News (T) (6315883). 12.05 Due South (S)(T) (5683609). 12.50 EastEnders (R)(S)(T) (60753311).

2.25 The Sons of Katle Elder (1965). John Wayne leads his younger brothers in a vengeful quest (199222).

4.25 Masterchof (S)(T) (9902319). **4.55** News; Weather (T) (9502883). **5.15** Regional News (8955628). **5.20** Songs of Praise (S)(T) (1446116).

5.55 Last of the Summer Wine. Long-running sitcom (R)(S)(T) (653721).

6.25 Antiques Roadshow (S)(T) (567512).

7:10 Cuttiwoat Island (1995). Geena Davis plays pirate Morgan Adams in this blustering Caribbean adventure which too often confuses loud for

9.00 Bravo Two Zero. Sean Bean stars in a two-part drama based on the best-seller by former SAS commander Andy McNab. It talls of an ill-fated mission cluring the Gulf War in which a patrol was dropped behind enemy lines (S)(T) (9951).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (248390).

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10.45 Falling Down (1993), Michael Douglas is mad as hell and he's not going to take it any more. Sharp, cynical study of urban indifference to one man's complete mental breakdown, a white-collar Taxi Driver that's simultaneously funny and sad (S) (155390).

12.00 FILM Whispers in the Dark (1992) Unhappy psychiatrist Annabella Sciorra males a hash of a case. A good cast stars in a frank adult thriller (S)(I)

1.45 Jc.... BBC News 24 (75317471). То вать

BBC2

7.30 Teletubbles (S) (4932883). 8.10
Whant Barri Strawberry Jami (R) (S)
(9216796). 8.25 Artbox Bunch (R) (S)
(9204951). 8.40 Eek the Cat (S)
(8575715). 8.50 Little Mouse on the Prairie (R) (7740828). 945 Alvin and the Cripmunks (682048). 9.40 Charlie Brown and Snoopy Show (5201057). 10.10 The Wayne Manifesto (S) (6696319). 10.35 Grange Hil (R)(S)(T) (5200241). **11.00** Kids and Cops (S) (7352628). **11.25** Grange Hill (R)(S)(T) (1874661). 11.50 The O Zone (R)(S) (7863970). **12.05** The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (4857048). **12.30** The Making of Robot Wars (R)(S) (95636). **1.00** Gogs... Gogwana (R)(S) (64086). **1.30** Sunday Grandstand (S) (79410222). **1.35** Ski Sunday (1896951). **2.30** Cricket - the Ashes (22, 3.00 World Darts (22557593).

5.40 Star Trek: Voyager. B'Elanna is on edge because of the impending Klingon ritual "Day of Honour" (S)(T) (674116).

6.25 Star Trek: Voyager. Chakotay finds himself in the middle of a war between the Vori and the Kradin (S)(T) (565154).

7:10 The Mystery of the Taj Mahal. Documentary tracing the history of one of the world's most beautiful buildings. The programme tells the story of the Taj Mahal as both a monument to love and a testament to the almost megalomaniacal ambition of a brutal regime (S) (587661).

8.00 Inside the Lords. Cive Anderson goes behind the scenes of the House of Lords. He meets the Doorkeepers who ensure the smooth running of the place and finds out what Black Rod does when he's not knocking on the door of the Commons (S)(T) (699406).

8.40 The Car's the Star. Classic cars profiled (S) (374593).

9.00 FILM Ryan's Daughter (1970).
David Lean's fragile romance, set in Ireland in 1916. Nice to look at, but the acting's patchy. Starring Sarah Miles, Robert Mitchum, John Mils (T)

12.10 World Darts (S) (8634487). To 1.05am.

ITV Granada

6.60 GMTV (28203). 8.00 Diggit (9537393).
9.25 Art Attack (R)(S)(T) (6826086).
9.50 Worst Witch (R)(S)(T) (5295406).
10.20 Superman (1596628). 10.50 Sunday Morning (S)(T) (3492970).
11.50 Link (R)(S)(T) (7867796). 12.05 Sun Wars (T) (5878777). 12.50 Tiny Toon Adventures (R)(S)(T) (4390890). Toon Adventures (R)(S)(T) (4390609). 1.15 Graneda News (1) (94927999). 1.20 News (1) (94908864). 1.30 The Big Match: FA Cup Round Three – Port Vale vs Liverpool (T) (16740425). 4.15 Coronation Street (R) (T) (437870). 4.45 Granada News (1) (95)0715). **5.00** News; Weather (1) (2629357).

5.15 Home Alone 2: Lost in New York (1992). Macaulay Cufcin is again far too bright to be nabbed by the baddies. Not so much a sequel as a remake, it seems like it's twice as long as the first film, half as good and doubly violent (S)(T) (99579721).

7.30 Coronation Street. News of Alf's death spreads (T) (41).

8.00 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Quiz show (S)(T) (2574).

8.30 CHOIGE Lost for Words. Thora Hird and Pete Postlethwalte star in a touching comedy drama based on the book of the same name. See Choice, below (S)(T) (39970).

10,00 Tarrant on TV (81965).

10.30 News; Weather (T) (850845).

10.45 Alien 3 (1992). Trapped in an outer-space penal colony. Sigourney Weaver soon realises that the evil alien has hitched a ride in her escape pod. Tense, claustrophobic sci-fi action (S)(T) (436135).

12.45 UFO Chronicles (9509487), 1.35 seaQuest DSV (S) (5949433), 2.25 Instant Replay (R) (9351029), 3.25 Cybernet (R) (S) (77145544), 3.50 The Making of "Hard Rain" (R) (83812742), 4.25 Nich) Shift (89001497), 4.20 EDV **4.15** Night Shift (68001487). **4.20** ITV Nightscreen (8436723). **5.30** Morning News (85926). To 6am.

Channel 4

635 Camberwick Green (R)(T) (4705406). 6.35 Frootie Tooties (R) (2927116). **6.45** Dog City (R) (6640262). **7.10** April Sand (R)(S) (2380357). **7.35** The Mousehole Cat (R)(S)(T) (3224116). 8.05 Johnny Bravo (3580195). 8.35 Sister Sister (8028845). 9.05 Wise Up (3514244). 9.40 Planet Pop (7622970). 10.00 The Waltons (2367067). 10-55 Day of Thanks on Walton Mountain (24562680). 12.45 Speechless! (R) (485661). 1.15 Football Italia (49061932).

3.30 Do Not Disturb (1965) Trivial farce with Don's Day in wholly fake England (976593).

5.25 Time Team. Tony Robinson and his team return to dig up information from the site of Josiah Wedgwood's first pottery factory in Stoke on Trent (5444715).

6.40 Equinox Special: Apocalypse When? Examining the mathematics, psychology and science necessitated by the arrival of the year 2000 (5639929).

7.55 Whatever Happened to the Plague? Update of the award-winning documentary The Plague, which looks at the progress made in the fight to combat the Aids virus (80311845).

9.30 Widows' Peak (1994). Natasha Richardson's arrival in a small hish community sets tongues wagging. Scandal, blackmail and murder follow suit Brisk, brittle comedy in a heady brew that improves as the plot thickens. With Mia Farrow (330406).

11.20 Babylon 5 (R)(S)(T) (614222). **12.20** Dark Skies (R)(S)(T) (8694433). **115** Vids (32452).

1.45 FILM. Nasty Girl (1989). German satire which follows Lena Stolze as she investigates the legacy of Nazism in her home town (913568).

3.25 The Sun Also Rises (1957) Americans in Paris between the wars search for meaning in their lives. With Tyrone Power, Errol Flynn (45602181).

5.40 The Pink Panther Show (30028:0). To 6am.

Channel 5

6.00 Mixing It (S) (9108280). 6.30 Havakazoo (R) (S) (7073087). 7.00 Dappledown Farm (R) (9338628). 7.30 Milkshake! (S) (6653131). **7.35** Wimzie's House (R)(S) (9052241) 8.00 Do You Believe In? (1492932). 8.30 The Revelation Game (S) (2900715). **9.05** Stickin' Around (S) (2004086). **9.30** The Incredible Hulk (S) (1272680). 10.30 Sister Said (S) (1411067). 11.00 Daria (R)(S) (4903390), **11.30** Singled Out (R)(S) (491319), **12.00** Love Me for a Reason (S) (9280883). 1.00 Jerwood Prize: Skedaddle (52525932). 1.15 5 News (S)(T) (13064406). 1.20 100 Per Cent (S) (4605241). 1.55 Exclusive (S)

5.00 The Next Karate Kid (1994). Noriyuki "Pat" Morita turns his strention to alienated orphan Hilary Swank in this addition to the clapped-out Karate Kid series. With Michael ironside (S)(T) (1416512).

7.00 From Jesus to Christ. In the second of the scholarly series on the rise of Christianity, Terry Waite explores the period immediately after the crucifixion (S)(T) (5884512).

8.00 The Deep (1977). A scubsdiving couple plunge into danger during an eventful Bermuda holiday. Lumbering undersea adventure based on a book by Jaws author Peter Benchley. With Nick Nolta, Jacqueline Bisset, Robert Shaw, Louis Gossett Jr, Eli Wallach (T) (70279203).

10.20 The Player (1992). Hot-shot studio executive Tim Robbins bumps off an aggrieved writer in this Hollywood satire which is stuffed with cameo performances. With Greta Scacchi, Peter Gallagher (S) (T) (58597280).

12.40 NHL Ice Hockey: New Jersey **Devils vs Ottawa Senators (S)** (79423094). 4.40 Tibs and Fibs (R)(S) (72875988). **5.05** Move On Up (R)(S) (85925029). **5.30** Alpha Zone (R)(S) (1607015). To 6am.

ITV/Regions

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HENY CHANNET

COTLAND

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love," she replies. "Surprise me."

SUNDAY CHOICE

AT THE AGE OF 87, DAME Thora Hird keeps up a work rate that would exhaust an actress many years her junior. She gives another moving performance in Lost For Words (8.30pm ITV, left), by Deric Longden, about the relationship between an old woman and her son. This role is taken by the always excellent Pete Postlethwaite, who is on loan from Hollywood. "Do you want to be buried, Mum, or do you want to be cremated?" she is asked at one point. "Oh, I don't know,

SATELLITE & CABLE

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Channel 5

6.00 5 News and Sport (S) (7137297), 7.00 WideWorld (R)(S)(T) (9225100), 7.30 Mikshake! (S) (5902443), 7.35 Wirnziels

House (R) (9956013). **8.00** Havakazoo (R) (S) (1396704). **8.30** Dappledown Farm

(2072487), 9.25 Russell Grant's Postcards

(1395075). **9.00** Housebusters (R)(T)

(R) (4921742), 9.30 Oprah (6755549),

10.20 Sunset Beach (S)(T) (2353297)

11.30 Leeza (R)(S) (2233723) **12.00** 5 News at Noon (S)(T) (1399891) **12.30** Family Affairs (S)(T) (9165520) **1.00** The

Bold and the Beautiful (S)(T) (9224471 1.30 The Roseanne Show (9164891), 2.00

100 Per Cent Gold (S) (6585891). 2.30

Good Afternoon (S) (4784655).

3.30 Corrina, Corrina (1994)

daughter (1) (9868346).

6.00 100 Per Cent (S) (5446100).

7.00 5 News (S)(T) (6596907).

6.30 Family Affairs (S)(T) (5437452).

2.30 Champions of the Wild. A profile

8.00 Weather Front (S) (6505655).

of tarantula expert Rick West (S)(T)

8.30 The Great UFO Conspiracy. A look

9.00 FILM Under Oath (1996). Crooked cop Jack Scala is assigned to his own crime in this thriller with James Russo (I)

10.45 Second Best (1994). Village postmaster William Hurt adopts a troubled 10-year-old boy in a quietly affecting drama, ably performed (S) (1609013).

12.45 Live and Dangerous (S) (794/5075).
 4.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (325/2672).
 5.30 100 Per Cent (590/2227). To 6em.

10.40 Dr Fox's Chart Update (8767389).

at the question of UFOs - do they exist? (S)(T) (6584162).

Widower Ray Liotta hires Whoopi Goldberg to tend his grief-stricken

5.20 Everything You Ever Wanted to Know about Sunset Beach. The

soap story so far (T) (6317075).

MONDAY TELEVISION

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (49636). 7.00 News (1) (78075) 9.00 (Nroy (5)(1) (8909617) 9.45 The Vanessa Show (S)(1) (5445487) 10.55 News (1) (723181) 11.00 Real Rooms (7321758) 11.25 Carlt Cook, Wortt Cook (S)(T) (7228617). 11.55 News (T) (1444013). 12.00 Call My Bluff (S) (63094). 12.30 Battersea Dogs' Home (S) (T) (98278), 1.00 News (T) (71182), 1.30 Regional News (86932617). **1.40** Neighbours (S)(T) (65612433). **2.05** Ironside (R) (S)(1) (05012/33), 2.05 ironside (H) (7905907), 2.55 Going for a Song (S) (8890162), 3.20 Weather Show (S)(T) (2221013), 3.25 Playdays (S) (1275902), 3.45 The Littlest Pet Shop (9307365). 3.55 Bodger and Badger (1) (8731346) 4.10 Pocket Dragon Adventures (S)(T) (5720926). 4.20 Rugrats (R)(S)(T) (6354029). 4.35 Misery Guts (S)(T) (1964549). 5.00 Newsround (S)(T) (5701278). 5.10 Blue Peter (T) (6834433).

5.35 Neighbours (S)(T) (591278).

6.00 News; Weather (T) (839).

6.30 Regional News (T) (891).

7.00 This is Your Life (S)(T) (9948).

7.30 Watchdog Healthcheck (T) (425). 8.00 EastEnders (S)(T) (9636).

8.30 Birds of a Feather. The very first episode (R)(S)(T) (1471).

9.00 News; Weather (1) (6907).

9.30 Paddington Green (S)(T) (40182).

10.00 Bravo Two Zero. Sergeant McNab continues his battle to reach the safety of the Syrian border (S)(T) (552948).

10.55 Eil Wind Side (1993). Rutger Hauer boys with a hit-and-run yuppie couple in this brutal tale (S)(1) (21525568).

12.30 The Lords of Discipline (1983). The first black cadet at a military academy is subjected to non-stop abus Dour drama with David Keith (739698).

2.10 Joins BBC News 24 (74603037).

BBC2

7.00 Wiggly Park (S) (9245015), 7.05 Teletubbies (S) (2267452), 7.30 Yogis Treasure Hunt (FI)(S) (2567839), 7.50 To Me... to You (S) (3122704). 8.20 Taz-Mania (S) (9190704). 8.40 Polka Dot Shorts (S) (8475669). 8.55 Wiggly Park (S) (6561926). 9.00 Romuald the Reindeer (7395742). **9.40** The Phil Silvers Show (R) (6707549). **9.35** The Phil Silvers Show (R) (5185075), 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (65013).

10.30 EJEM Conspiracy of Hearts (1960). Italian nurs shield Jewish children from the Nazis. Among those including in good habits is Life Palmer (65564346).

12.20 Hot Shots (R)(S) (6211013), 12.30 Working Lunch (89520), 1.00 Romueld the Reindeer (R)(S) (73903162). 1.10 The Arts and Crafts Hour (S) (2728704). 2.10 World Darts (S) (98342549).

5.30 Cricket - the Ashes (S) (568).

6.00 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (538075).

6.20 The Simpsons (R)(S)(T) (532891).

6.45 Hit, Miss or Maybe (S)(T) (787029).

communication technology (S) (4758). 7.30 Against the Grain (S)(T) (617).

7.00 Digital Planet, Series on

8.00 Beat Route. Jools Holland in Chicago, paying tribute to his boogle-woogle heroes (S)(T) (7278).

8.30 Food and Drink. Confort food for the New Year - smoked haddock fish-cakes (S)(T) (9013).

9.00 Morecambe and Wise (R)(1) (4549).

9.30 Horizon Special. Fascinating story of an 18th-century clockmaker (played by Patrick Malahide) who took on the most urgent scientific problem of his age -precise navigation at sea (S)(T) (277346).

10.20 Clockwatch (S)(T) (359181). 10.30 Newsnight (T) (219742). 11.15 World Darts (S) (201097), 12.00 The Phi Silvers Show (S) (31785), To 1230am.

MONDAY CHOICE

What The Sweeney did for the Flying Squad, The Vice (9pm IIV, left) will be hoping to do for an unnamed vice unit in the Metropolitan Police. Indeed, this new cop drama reverberates with references, from the Seventies theme music to the opening shot of a prostitute's face screwed up in agony as she is raped by her pimp, a pure steal from Mono Lisa. Ken Stott heads a team that in this opening story is trying to nail the pimp. Stott, meanwhile, starts to go beyond the limits of duty with the call-girl he's protecting.

ITV Granada

6.00 GMTV (6024742), 9.25 Tristra (2366568). 10.25 This Morning (T) (62885839). 12.20 Granada News (T) (6215839). 12.30 News (83346). 1.00 Home and News (S)(1) (79758), **1.30** Jerry Springer (S)(1) (8237094), **2.15** Coronation Street (R)(1) (†18723), **3.15** News (1) (2226568), **3.20** Granada News (1) (2216181).

3.25 Children's ITV: Mopatop's Shop (T) (2206704). 3.35 Tots TV (R)(S) (8755926). 3.45 Captain Pugwash (S) (8735162), 4.00 Oggie and the Cockroaches (T) (5580159), 4.20 it's a Mystery (T) (8534079), 4,45 Sabrina, the Teenage Witch (S)(T) (1051029), **5.40** Home and Away (S)(T) (6602510), **5.40** News; Weather (T) (492568).

5.55 Granada Tonight (T) (9580013).

7.00 Wish You Were Here...? (1) (8384).

7.30 Coronation Street (T) (471).

8.00 Who Wants to be a Millionaire? Quiz show (S)(T) (4704).

8.30 Carol Vorderman's Better Homes New series in which neighbours compete to increase the value of their homes with major structural alterations (T) (3839).

9.00 CHOICE The Vice. Hard-hitting new drama series about a London police vice unit. See Choice, below (S)(T) (2487).

10.00 News; Weather (T) (59891).

10.30 Granada News (T) (592617). 10.40 Nash Bridges (1) (327100).

11.40 Body Heat (1981). Slow-witted lawyer William Hurt is led a merry dance by dangerous seductress Kathleen Turner (T) (52142568).

1.45 Football League Extra (857330).

2.45 Till Dracula (1931). The vampire story according to Bela Lugosi (4286018).

3.55 Trisha (R)(S)(T) (8477940), 4.50 (TV Nightscreen (6822259), 5.30 Morning News (29940). To 6am.

Sky Premier
8.00 Draw (684, 68548, 8.00 The Bohtser;
1973 Crisk, 19.00 Heb Agast (987) (5856),
19.00 Medica (589) RestOV, 2.00 Coccor me
Passen (989) 68577, 4.00 Heb Agast (987) (7838,
8.00 Medica (986) (7981), 8.00 Medice (188)
(8858, 19.00 Darses Peak (997) (98889), 16.50
Copyce (985) (985889), 1.38 The Restorme Man
(989) (165898), 1.38 Breaking in (898) (80327230). (698) (69380) 3.26 Breaking in (898) (60327230).

Sky Mowine Max.

236 Fearnine Father 255-9, 7.30 Move Mogic 822801, 8.35 Action Hender (2983)-6, 9.00 June Fyre (598) 65739; 1.40 The Right Connections (597) 65700, 1.00 Fearnine (5530, 1.30 Megac 655501), 2.55 Action Hender (7589), 2.00 May filter (37520), 8.00 The Right Connections (597) (1853); 7.00 June Eyre (665) (2000), 9.00 Berget Earls (597) (2553); 1.00 Activation, Fear the Fluct (1989) (27653), 1.40 Hourst (1989) (27653), 1.40 Hourst (1989) (27653), 1.40 Hourst (1989) (27653), 1.40 Hourst (1989) (27653), 5.00 Deministry (1977) (2667).

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Fauget-fortest (1975) (1976) 500 The
Fauget-fortest (1976) 500

Channel 4

6.00 Sesame Street (32346). 7.00 The Big Breakfast (S) (94013). 9.00 The Cosby Show (R)(T) (76568). 9.30 The Cosby Show (R)(T) (40100).

10.00 The | Don't Care Girl (1952). Musical biography (1) (61605).

11.30 Here's One I Made Earlier (R)(S)(T) (3810), 12.00 Sesame Street (56704), 12.30 Bewitched (R) (81988), 1.00 Pet Rescue (97100). 1.30 Unsigned (55015159).

1.50 The Spanish Gardener (1956) Diplomat Michael Hordern resents the growing relationship between his son and gardener Dirk Bogarde (61853549).

3.30 The Hampton Court Palace (365). 4.00 Fifteen to One Highlights (R)(S)(T) (100). 4.30 Countdown (S)(T) (1958988). 4.55 Montel Williams (S)(T) (4069346).

5.30 Pet Rescue (S)(T) (636).

6.00 Roseanne (R)(S)(T) (549).

6-30 Hollycaks (S)(1) (29).

7.00 News; Weather (S)(T) (709907). 7.55 Cuban Faces (616907).

8.00 Wild Tales (1) (7365).

9.00 Mayday. New documentary series about safety on the water (1) (7159). 10.00 White Men Can't Jump (1992). Woody Harrelson winds up Wesley

Snipes over basketball (T) (90463075). 12.10 FILM Mystery Train (1989). Three off-beat stories set in Memphs (200476).

2.10 The Frightened City (1961). Sean Cornery as an Irish rogue shaking up a protection racket (585766). 4.00 Elim Buildog Jack (1934), Cornedy thriler starring Jack Hulbert (8240921).

5.15 Pictures at an Exhibition (P)(S) (4618124), 5.55 Sesame Street (4081872).

SATELLITE & CABLE

12.30 Wedent (1267). 1.00 Footbal (1700). 2.00 Sparish Footbal (2640). 4.00 Bad Sport (1742). 4.00 Wed Sport (1742). 4.00 Wed Sport (1742). 6.00 Gent (1744). 6.00 Footbal (1744). 6.00 Gent (1744). 10.00 Cent (1744). 10.00 Footbal (1744). 2-86-17-0-46-18-00 (1997) (216-7968), g.23 Cel (1994) (1977) (1973) (1970) (1974) (1974) (1974) RZ350-94, 113-00 Angel (1982) (1983) (1974) (1974) RZ350-94, 113-00 Angel (1982) (1983) (1983) (1984) RZ350-94, 113-00 Angel (1983) (1983) (1983) (1983) 2-40 Stragel (1987) (1975) (1983) (1983) (1983) - 8.00 Yojenbo (1987) (1975) (1983) - 8.09 Yolinbo (1971) (97(639);
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12.00 Jenny Jéroey (1970); 1.00 Mart strout You
20402, 1.30 Jenny Jéroey (1956); 9.00 Selly Rephesi
(1982); 3.00 Jenny Jéroey (1970); 4.00 Guilly Jenny
(1983); 4.00 Deep Sease (1970); 4.00 Guilly Jenny
(1984); 4.00 Deep Sease (1970); 4.00 Simpsore
(1984); 4.00 Deep Sease (1970); 4.00 Simpsore
(1984); 4.00 Deep Sease (1970); 5.00 Simpsore
(1985); 5.00 Simpsore
(1985); 6.00 Simp Review (8040), 3.00 Contro (\$7028389, 345 Circo.

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West Index (\$97591, 4.00 Circles Asstrale v
England (\$255452, 6.30 V-Max (\$42287), 200 FA
Cup Speed (\$72859), 19.00 Circles (\$25287),
10.46 Total Sout (\$25282), 11.00 September (\$25285), 12.00 Circles Australe v
England
(\$784591, 12.00 V-Max (\$725657), 2.30 - 7.00

Circles Australe v England (\$250078) (1906) 1-30 - Zeter Lang.
Sky Sports 1
Zeo Footbol (1952) 8-80 Fortbol Mundal (1949) 8-30 Footbol (1952) 8-80 Aerdaca (1928) 9-30 World Sport (1952) 8-30 Aerdaca (195 Sky Sports 3 12.00 Data (1940)255, 2.00 Windsaring (1989)394, 2.20 Vida (1986)369, 4.00 Marocycles (2557755) 8.00 Feetbal Legue Roder (1989)315, 0.00 Tast Sport (4036754)

6.36 Cricker South Africa v West Indias (77/406)58. 8.30 Cricket Australia v England (96807839), 71.00 Second Immigs (52558487), 71.30 Clock

and throw wanted a England (SSBMSS), Tubio Second Immage (SSBSSS), Tubio Gotoc UK. Gold Core.

UK. Gold Second Immage (SSBSSS), Tubio Replacer Settles 2.55 Englands (127807), 8-20 The Bit SSEMSS, 8-20 Negatives (127807), 8-20 The Bit SSEMSS, 8-20 Negatives (127807), 8-20 The Header of Englands (127807), 8-20 Negatives (127807), 8-20 Negatives (127807), 8-20 Negatives (127807), 8-20 Negatives (127808), 100 Julie Brand (128808), 100 Julie Brand (128808), 100 Julie Brand (128808), 100 New to Gold (128808), 100 a Jongsons (28:39'24) 2.50 Shopping (28:08:52)
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Onte (26:43) 2.00 Dr Nut: (85:01) 2.30 Seep
(77:98) 2.90 Wings (20:00) 2.30 Ng/Rotand
(5:390) 4.90 Close

ITV/Regions

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As Granada except: 12:20 Spoon with a View(SSTAG), 12:25 Border News (SSGTSB, 2:20)
Border News (22:051), 5:00 Loderbund (GSB129,
6:20 Border Spoon Action (4:4558, 9:30 Country)
Vets (7), 10:20 Border News (SSG6T)

Reserved, 1923 Septier News (SSSTSR) 2.20 bords News (2200), Supplemental News (2200), Supplemental (SSSTSR) 2.30 Country News (2200), Supplemental (SSSTSR) 2.30 Country News (SSSTSR) 2.30 Country News (SSSTSR) 2.30 Country News (SSSTSR) 2.30 News (SSSTSR) 2.3

Three G2216349, 1.45 The Best of Later on 2 (CYESTS) 2.25 John of 95 (EFFS) 2.55 (CYESTS) 2.25 John of 95 (EFFS) 2.55 (CYESTS) 2.25 (CYESTS) 2

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RADIO 1

RADIO 2

RADIO 3

6.00 On Air.

(902-924MHz FM)

12.00 Private Passions.

1.90 The Radio 3 Lunchtime

3.00 Youth Orchestras of the

5.00 Jazz Record Requests

6.00 Jazz Century. See Pick of

century Vienna. Eisenstein is due

to report to prison but stops off at

a party at Prince Onofsky's on

locks up the wrong man, but the

mistake cannot be revealed as

the man was in his slippers with

German. Carol Vaness, soprano

(Rosalinde), Elizabeth Norberg-

Schulz, soprano (Adele), Jochen

Metropolitan Opera Chorus and

Kowalski, countertenor (Orlofsky),

Orchestra/Patrick Summers. Act 1

7.25 Naked Beauties. In the con-

cluding part of his exploration of

athe cigar as a cultural icon, Andrew Jefford considers the plea-

Eisenstein's wife at home. Sung in

the way. The prison governor

Concert. (R) 1.50 The Harmonic Series.

4.15 The Finishing Touch.

6.30 Opera on 3. Johann

Strauss's perennially popular op-eretta is set in fun-loving, 19th-

9.00 CD Review.

2.00 Best of 3.

the Day.

(88-90.2MHz FM)

(976-998MHz FM)

7.00 Mark Goodier. 10.00

Rap Show. 12.00 Radio 1

6.30 Annie Nightingale.

Reggae Dancehall Nite. 2.00

6.00 Mo Dutta. 8.05 Brian

Matthew. 10.00 Steve Wright's

Expanurday Show. 100 What's the

Bleeding Time?. 1.30 Love 40 -

Freeman. 3.30 Johnnie Walker.

5.30 Paul Gambaccini. 7.00

Hootie and the Blowfish in

Jagged Little Morissette. 8.00

Concert. 9.00 Sweet Soul Radio

2 10.00 Bob Harris, 1.00 Lynn Parsons, 4.00 - 7.00 Mo Dutta.

Essential Mix: Scott Bond, 4.00

Chris Moyles. 1.00 Lisa l'Anson.

3.00 Radio 1's R 'n' B Chart.

5.00 Judge Jules. 7.00 Danny

Rampling - Lovegroove Dance Party. 9.00 Westwood - Radio 1

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SATURDAY RADIO

PICK OF THE DAY

pilot, the musical potted histories for excellent beginners' guides. In the first part of the exhaustive Jazz Century (6pm R3), which

AND THEY'RE OFF. The runs for 52 weeks. Rusself number of centennial round-ups Davies attempts to define jazz scheduled for the year ahead - as an expression of the on BBC radio will have you American spirit. There's thinking screaming for the next of a less wishful kind later in The millennium. Although this is Brains Trust (10.15pm R3), the almost programming on auto- lofty discussion panel show chaired by Joan Bakewell (right), which are lined up should make which this week features AS Byatt. A much-needed intellectual Alka Seltzer for the sore head. DOMINIC CAVENDISH



sures of smoking cigars. He talks to cigar lovers and old-time rollers in Havana and visits some of the latter-day smoking dens and

clubs in Britain. 7.50 Die Fledermaus, Act 2. 8.50 The Met Opera Quiz. Thor Eckert Jr puts listeners' questions to Stephan A Brown, David Hamilton and Richard Woitach. 9.15 Die Fledermaus, Act 3. 10.15 The Brains Trust. Joan Bakewell chairs the discussion programme, originally launched in 1941 on BBC Radio's Home Service, in which leading minds in the fields of art, science, religion and philosophy debate important intellectual issues. With novelist AS Byatt, historian Theodore Zeldin, mathematician Prof lan Stewart, and theologian the Very Rev Tom Wright. See Pick of the Day. 11.00 Nobuko Imai. Works for viola, including the first performance of a piece by the Scottish composer David Horne, given in recital in 1995 at London's Wigmore Hall. Nobuko Imai (viola), Roger Vignoles (piano). Home: Stilled Voices (first performance).

11.30 Jazz on 3. **1.00 - 6.00** Through the Night.

Maxwell Davies: The Door of the

Sun. Takemitsu: A Bird Came

(924-94.6MHz FM) 6.00 News Briefing. 6.05 Sports Desk. 6.10 Open Country. 6.57 Weather.

Down the Walk.

7.00 Today. 9.00 Home Truths. 10.00 News; Double Vision. 11.00 News; The Food

Programme. 11-30 From Our Own Correspondent. 12.00 News; Money Box. 12.30 News Quiz of the Year. **12.55** Weather. 100 News

115 Our Next Question Please?. 2.00 What's in a Name?. 2.30 Sir John Soane at Home. 3.00 News; The Saturday Play: The Big Bazoohley. 4.00 News; Weekend Woman's

5.00 Saturday PM. 5.30 Talking Pictures. 5.54 Shipping Forecast. 5.57 Weather. 6.00 Six O'Clock News.

6.15 Live from London. 7.00 News; Saturday Review. 7.45 My Grandmother's House. By Fergal Keane, the award-winning correspondent who touched the nation's heart with his 'Letter to Daniel' recalls his early days, his family and the city of Cork where he was brought up. 8.00 The Archive Hour:

Tomorrow at the Same Time. Author Jeffrey Robinson recalls radio programmes in the 30s. 9.00 News; The Classic Serial: Bleak House. By Charles Dickens, dramatised in five parts by John Dryden. 5: The chase is on for the murderer of Tulkinghom. Inspector Bucket sifts through the

evidence then reveals all Jamdyce and Jamdyce finally gets its judgement. Will the selfless orphan Esther Summerson and bankrupt newlyweds Ada and Richard get what they deserve? With Claire Price and Michael Kitchen.

10.00 News and Weather. 10.15 Them and Us. Diana Madill presents the first in a series of lively debates about the major issues of the day. 'Supermarkets have more power than is good for you.' Fruit grower Mark Giles and butcher Graham Hurley slug it out with Tony Combes from Safeways and economist Sean Rickard in front of an audience at Leominster, Worcestershire. 11.00 News; Scaling the Mountain. Robert Dawson Scott invites

a performer or composer to revisit a major musical challenge In this programme, Scottish t raditional musician Phil Cunningham reveals how he fought his way back to performing after a heart attack

11.30 Fine Lines. A look at poetry in Poland. (R) 12.00 News. 12.25 Experimental Feature: Startales.

12.30 The Late Story: Playing the Part. 12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service.

5.30 World News. 5.35 Shipping Forecast. 5.40 Inshore Forecast 5.50 - 6.00 Bells on Sunday. RADIO 4 LW 12.00 - 12.04 News Headlines: Shipping Forecast, 12.00 - 7.00

Test Match Special **RADIO 5 LIVE** (693, 909kHz MW) **6.00** Dirty Tackle. 6.30 Breákfast. 9.00 Chiles on Saturday. 11.00 Move It. 11.30 Sick as a Parrot. 12.00 Sportscall. 1.00 Sport on 5. Football: commentary on a headlining tie from the FA Cup third round in England and second round in Scotland, plus news of all the goals.

6.06 Six-O-Six 8.00 Dallyn UK. Richard Dallyn with news from around the UK. 9.00 The Treatment, Stuart Maconie and guests review the week's news

10.00 Late Night Currie. Austin Mitchell presents features and phone-ins, and gets behind the public image of a celebrity. 1.00 Up All Night.

4.00 Extra Time. (R) 5.00 - 6.00 Morning Reports. CLASSIC FM (100.0-101.9MHz FM

6.00 Sarah Lucas, 8.00 Countdown. 11.00 Masters of Their Art. 1.00 Mike Read. 3.00 Margaret Howard, 6.00 At the Movies. 7.00 Smooth Classics at Seven. 9.00 Opera Guide. 10.00 The Classic Quiz. 12.00 Midnight Music. 2.00 Evening Concert. **4.00 - 6.00** Sunday Start.

VIRGIN RADIO (1215, 1197-1260kHz MW 105.8MHz FM) 6.00 Jeremy Clark. 9.00 Harriet Scott. 12.00 Russ Williams. 2.00 Rock and Roll Football with Chris Evans. 6.00 Wheels of Steel. 10.00 Janey Lee Grace, 2.00 -6.00 Richard West.

WORLD SERVICE RADIO (198kHz LW)

1.30 On Your Behalf. 1.45 Sports Roundup. 2.00 Newsd 2.30 Music Review. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Review. 315 Sports Roundup. 3.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 4.00 Newsdesk. 4.30 Global Business. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 6.00 Jazzmatazz.

(3519192), 8.15 See How They Grow

Tempestt (9303604), 9.55 Rolonda

(6291314). 8.25 Polka Dot Shorts (6282666). 8.35 Thy and Crew (8023444)

8.50 Practical Parenting (9556314), 9.05

(7895111). 10.45 Special Bables (2648024

INDEPENDENT PURSUITS

CHESS JON SPEELMAN

WHILE WE in Hastings were just getting started, an event of even greater strength was finishing in Groningen in Holland. The top two groups were six player double rounders - one for men and one for women. This can lead either to a blood bath or a macho. if apparently peaceful, stand-off: depending on the temperaments and strengths of the contestants.

In the case of the the women, there was gore aplenty with 17 decisive games out of the 30 in the category 9 event (average 2459) as Natalia Zhukova from the Ukraine powered her way to 7/10 ahead of Antoaneta Stefanova (Bulgaria) 6.5, Peng Zhaooin (Holland) 6, Zhu Chen (China) and Monica Miroslawska (Poland) 4 and Diana Darchia (Georgia) just 1.5.

The very strong men's tour-nament averaged 2629, which is category 16. Here discretion took a far greater part with just six decisive games out of the thirty! Both winners, Sergei Tiviakov (Russia) and Vadim Milov (Switzerland) were unbeaten on 6/10. They were followed by Zoltan Almasi (Hungary) on 5.5 - beating both bottom markers but losing to Tiviakov, Jeroen Piket (Holland) who made 4.5 drawing 9 but losing to Milov and finally Alex Yermolinsky (USA) and Karen Asrian (Armenia) on 4, who lost two each without a win.

How tedious you might think and it's hard to rebut this totally. But stick any markedly weaker player into such a pool of piranhas and there would be gore aplenty! I repeat: the reason for so many draws is not excessive peacefulness over the holiday period but a macho balance of terror.

Like the Hastings Challengers. there was also a strong Grandmaster Open in Groningen, no fewer than 151 taking part. It was won by Vladimir Baklan (Ukraine), Sergei Movsesian (Czech Republic) and Karpov's frequent second Vladimir Epishin (Russia) on 8.5/11. Evgeny Najer from Russia got a GM norm.

White got a space advantage out of the opening but in return for a lot of air around his king. The attempted breakthrough with 23.f5 was either somewhat desperate because he thought his queenside was going to collapse, or over-optimistic - it's hard to know which without asking him.

If 25.Nf6+ Nxf6 26.exf6 g6 27.Qe5 Qd7 is powerful. Unfortunately 27.Nf6+ loses to Oxf6 pinning. Once Black sacrificed, he had excellent practical chances. At the end 36.Qxh3 Qf2 is mate.

White: Karen Asrian Black: Vadim Milov Groningen 1998 (5th round) Sicilian Taimanov

1 e4 c5 19 a5 Qa7 2 Nf3 e6 20 Ne4 Rd8 21 Qh5 h6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 22 Rad1 Ba8 5 Nc3 Qc7 23 f5 exf5 6 Be2 b5 24 Qxf5 c5 7 0-0 Bb7 25 e6 Rf8 26 e7 Qxe7 8 Rel Nc6 27 c3 c4 9 Nxc6 dxc6 10 a4 Bd6 28 cxd4 cxd3 29 Rxd3 Qb4 11 g3 Be5 30 Q£2 £5 12 Bd3 Nf6 13 Be3 0-0 31 Nc5 f4 14 Bc5 Rfd8 32 Kg1 fxg3 15 f4 Bd4+ 33 Qxg3 Nf4 34 Rdd1 Qxb2 16 Bxd4 Rxd4

35 Ne6 Nh3+

BRIDGE ALAN HIRON

17 e5 Qb6

18 Kf1 Nd5

THIS DEAL, from the 1997 Bermuda Bowl gives keen analysts a rare opportunity. Eric Rodwell duly made his contract but only after missing what appears to have been a sounder line of play. Can you spot it? First, the actual events at the table...

Rodwell opened the South hand with 1NT (14-16 points) – not everyone's choice but, in the partnership's methods, it was a difficult hand to develop after opening One Heart. West with Three Clubs and North's double was negative (!). South jumped to Four Hearts and North's raise to Six was passed out.

West led ◆Q and, after drawing trumps, declarer tested the diamond unsuccessfully. As it seemed clear that it was East who held the length in spades, he eventually finessed \$10 and was then able to claim. But what if West had started with the doubleton jack in spades?

Try this - after winning the club lead, draw trumps in two rounds and cash just one of dummy's top diamonds (catering for the possibility of West being void in the suit), come to

No.3809 Saturday 2 January

North **◆**K852 ♥A765 ♦ A K 10 5 ₽K West East **◆**74 **◆**AJ63 485 743 **♦**J642 ♦73 **♦**QJ109875 **4**642 South **♠Q** 10 9 **©KOJ109** 0Q98 **♣**A3

North-South game; dealer South

hand with a trump and, after cashing A to throw a spade from dummy, lead a spade to the king. East takes his ace and undoubtedly returns a spade but South wins with his queen - catering for West having started with +Jx-and cashes his remaining trumps.

The point is that West, from his opening lead, is most unlikely to hold a side-suit singleton and, once he has followed to two rounds of trumps. it will be a virtual certainty that East will be squeezed in spades and diamonds.

SATELLITE AND CABLE

SKY PREMIER

6.00 The Last American Hero (1973) (17531). 8.00 Old Yeller (1957) (77686). 10.00 Casper, a Spirited Beginning (1997) (71078). 12.00 The Last American Hero (1973) (67289), **2.00** Old Yeller (1957) (80227), **4.00** Casper: a Spirited Beginning (1997) (79255685). 5.45 Harriet the Spy (1996) (16359666). **7.30** p:review (4005). **8.00** Liar Liar (1997) (52208). 10.00 The Fifth Element (1997) (74674840), See Pick of the Day. 12.05 The Crow: City of Angels (1996) (496503). 1.40 The Passion of Darkly Noon (1995) (449222), **3.25 - 6.00** A Modern Affair (1994) (93463066).

SKY MOVIEMAX

TE.

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2:10 El News Week in Review (9797395) 7. 10 Movie Magic (7933024). 8.15 Action Haroes (2118802). 9.00 Goldincks and the Three Bears (1995) (59260), **1L00** Shoot-down (1988) (33444), **L00** El News Week in Review (86802). 1.30 Action Heroes (8748395). 2.15 Movie Magic (3297647), 3.00 Goldlocks and the Three Beers (1995) (74840), 5.00 Shootdown (1989) (24335531). **6.45** McLeods Daughters (1996) (91031802). 8.30 Fernmes Fatales (3579). 9.00 Postcards from the Edge (1990) (43943173). 10.45 Before and After (1995) (60076622), 12-35 She-Devil (1989) (234951), 2.15 Exception

to the Rule (1996) (995512). 3-55 - 6.00 She's the One (1996) (89593135). SKY CINEMA 11.00 Top Hat (1935) (8999005). 1.00 The Black Room (1935) (2813735). 2.30 Private Hell 36 (1954) (3367802). 4.00 The ers (1945) (8347260). **6.00** His Kind of Women (1951) (7725173). 8-00 The Taking of Petham 123 (1974) (7737918), 10.00 Wall Street (1987) (6572208), 12.00 The Kremin Letter (1970) (19557512). 2.05 Say Anything (1989) (9653672), 3.45 Beyond the Clouds (1995) (8235574), 5.30 Close.

FILMFOUR 6.00 Return of Godzilla (7617647). 8.00 The Net (1995) (7612192). 10.00 Nikita (1990) (9048005). 12.00 Sweet Sweet-back's Baad Assess Song (1971) (474749). 1.35 Kids Are Airight (1978) (1006845). 3.15 Wild Search (1989) (9520241). 4.50 -6.00 Detour (1945) (4208357).

DISCOVERY CHANNEL 4.00 Bettle for the Skies (6994802), 5.00 The Century of Werfare (1756579), 6.00 A Century of Warfare (4257314). 7.00 Fast Cars (9674550). 8.00 The Mystery of Twisters (1766956). **8.30** Wonders of

PICK OF THE DAY

BRUCE WILLIS is in typically while Ian Holm and Lee Evans rip-roaring form in The Fifth offer Willis good support. Element (10pm Sky Premier, Linking earth, wind, fire and the Earth from destruction. Gary Oldman plays the face of evil,

Weather (1745463), 9.00 Extreme Diving

(9873821). 11.00 The Century of Warfare

5139537). 12.00 A Century of Warfare

(3284609), 1.00 TSR 2 (2860390), 2.00

7,00 Bump in the Night (92463), 7,30

Street Sharks (11598). 8,00 The Adven-

tures of Sinbad (89111). 9.00 The Simp-sons (89840). 9.30 Count Duckula

(90444), **10.00** Hercules: the Legendary Journeys (40622), **11.00** Wrestling (97918).

12.00 Wrestling (13395). 1.00 The New

Adventures of Superman (22043). 2-00

Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (55444). 3.00 Star Trek: Deep Space Nine (28753). 4.00 Star Trek: Voyeger (89460). 5.00 Star

Trek: Voyager (7227). 6.00 Xena: Warrior

Princess (19579), 7.00 Simpsons (8956), 7.30 The Simpsons (1995), 8.00 3rd Rock

from the Sun (4376), 8.30 3rd Rock from the Sun (6111), 9.00 JAG (68869), 11.00

Weekly (39135). 12.30 The Big Easy (38116). 1.30 Fire (24636). 2.30 - 6.00

6.00 Wild Spirits (48227). 6.30 Scottish

Footbell Motherwell vs Kilmamock (57260).

8.00 Aerobics (68956). 8.30 Racing News

(87227), 9.00 Boxing - Fights of 98 (432665), 12.00 Gillette Soccer Saturday

(2645227). 12.30 Spanish Football (11048).

(3134579). 5.30 NFL Double-header

Long Play (5126512).

SKY SPORTS 1

Star Trek: Voyager (90181). 12.00 Showbiz

(9670734), 10.00 Forensic Detective:

SKY ONE

Even in the days before rugby

richt). A gripping sci-fi thriller - league, there was no such thing directed by Jean Luc Besson. as a friendly in Gloucester vs Willis plays a former soldier and Bath (1.30pm Sky Sports 2) taxi driver in 23rd-century New matches. Bath have not been York who is called upon to help their usual consistent selves the Fifth Element, an exotic of late, and the fact that being played by Milla Jovovich. Gloucester and their ferocious supporters are always a tough water, she alone can save prospect at home will not help Bath's chances. JAMES RAMPTON



2.30 Rugby Union Update (93999). 3.30 Football (37845). 5.00 - 6.00 Watersports **SKY SPORTS 2**

7.00 Aerobics (9054734), 7.30 Racing News (9073869), 8.00 Soccer (7402 12.00 Max Power (7085685). 1.00 Gillette World Sport Special (9053005). 1.30 Ford Rugby Union: Gloucester vs Bath (2781685). See Pick of the Day. 4.00 Ice Sketting (3453043), **6.00** Darts: World Championships (9132531), **10.30** V-Max (6521869), **11.00** Wild Spirits (2190885), **11.30** Cricket Australia vs England (3820376). 2.00 Sec-ond Innings (5175113). 2.30 - 7.00 Cricket Australia vs England (9329574). SKY SPORTS 3

9.00 Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (13203043). **11.00** Cricket Australia vs England (62599734), 11.30 Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (65930821). 4.00 Cricket Australia vs England (92850647). 6.30 FA Cup Special (20278192). 8.00 Cricket Australia v England (96035666). 10.30 Intermetional Cricket South Africa vs West Indies (5521591). 11.30 Knockouts of EUROSPORT

7-30 Refly: Total Granada Dakar 99 (55956). 8.00 Alpine Skiing (18289). 9.00 Alpine Skiing (12043). 10.00 Ski Jumping (76734). 11.30 Alpine Skiing (51005). 12.00 Alpine Skiing (60802). 1.00 Ski Jumping (10444), 2.30 Biathlon (37482), 3.30 Alpine Sking (41956), 4.30 Ski Jumping (17869).

5.00 Fun Sports (8227), 6.30 And They Walked Away (12173). 7.30 Strength (88598). 8.30 Boxing (12444). 9.30 Ratiy Total Granada Dakar 99 (61531). 10.00 Martial Arts (91111), 11.00 Snooker: German Masters in Bingen (52969). 12.00 Raily: Total Granada Dakar 99 (73593).

UK GOLD 7.00 Big Break (5339735). 7.30 Neighbours Omnibus (28952258), 9.25 Dallas (30178734), **12.10** EastEnders Omnibus (47128647), **3.00** The Bill (5619111), **5.30** No Place like Home (1779550). 6.10 Film: Carry On Columbus (1992) (99932531). 8.00 Only Fools and Horses (69755753). 9,45 Men Behaving Badly (3629043). 10,25 One Foot in the Grave (2594734). 11.05 Porridge (9212227). 12.00 Film: Dead Men Don't Wear Plaid (1981) (5825680). 1.35 Mastermind (1086661) 2.10 The Onedin Line (4595241). 2.45 -7,00 Shopping (52247574).

LIVING 6.00 Dog and Arabella Nursery Phymes (29912376). 6.10 Alfred J Kwak (39047821). 6-30 Tiny and Crew '88 (1767550), 6-35 Polka Dot Shorts (64739227), 6-50 See How They Grow (17178666), 7.00 Practical Parenting (5438208), 7.05 Johnson and Friends (6502918). **7.20** Tiny Tales (5432024). **7.30** Califou (5335482). **7.35** Bug Alert (6482918), 7.55 Practical Parenting (6956734). 8.00 Greedysaurus and the Gang (6263531). 8.10 Philbert the Frog

11.15 Living It Up! (4319937). 12.15 Carit Cook, Won't Cook (7784537). 12.45 Michael Cole (7189918), 2.10 The Roseanne Show (7585482). 3-00 Film: Sharing Richard (1987) (22508550). 5.05 Hart to Hart (3599463), 6.00 Film: Senti mental Journey (1946) (7756043), 8,00 Rescue 9tt #375043\ 8.30 Revood Relief: Fact or Fiction (8354550). 9.00 Jerry Springer Double Bill (7727531). 11.00 The Sex Files (3887444), 12.00 Close. TNT 9.00 The Three Musketeers (1948) (39350685). 11.30 Soylent Green (1972)

(50007314), 1.30 Shaft in Africa (1973) (59997845). **3.15** Night Must Fall (1964) (76772067), 5.00 Close, PARAMOUNT

COMEDY CHANNEL

7.00 Clueless (8598), 7.30 Desmond's (1937), 8.00 Roseanne (4918), 8.30 Just Shoot Me (5753), 9,00 Cybil (76314), 9,30 Seinfeld (74005). 10.00 Film: Bananas (1971) (26005). 11.30 The Larry Sanders Show (90531), 12.00 Duckman (86067). 12.30 Vacant I of (49048), 1.00 Cornedy Store (29406). 1.30 Club Class (66425). 2.00 Dr Katz (45593), 2.30 Soap (64628) 3.00 Tibs and Fibs (32970), 3.30 Nightstand (48690), 4,00 Close. GRANADA PLUS

6.00 Jason King (9825869), **7.00** Bootsie and Snudge (8795963), **7.30** Leave It to Charlie (5745668), **8.00** Holding the Fort (5077734). 8.30 Mind Your Language (5076005). 9.00 Mission: Impossible 9982869), 10.00 The Persuaders (3840032). **11.00** Hawaii Five-O (9440276). 12.00 The Bounder (5070821), 12.30 Emmerciale (3300640). 3.00 Bonanza (7760550), 4.00 The High Chaparral (7789685), **5.00** Hawall Five-O (5710463), **6.00** The Persuaders (8736208), **7.00** Mis sion: Impossible (5192802). 8.00 Jesves and Wooster (5101550). 9.00 El CID (5121314). 10.00 The Odd Couple (5071550). 10.30 Hogens Heroes (5097598), **11.00** Granada Men & Motors (4756208). 2.00 Close.

REGIONAL TELEVISION VARIATIONS

BBC1 N IRELAND As BBC1 except: 4.40 Final Score (9526376), 4.55 Northern Ireland Results (9470802), 5.50 Newstine (210647). BBC1 SCOTLAND

As BBC1 except: 4.40 Afternoon Sportscene (#85227) 5.40 Are You Being Served? (7858258) 5.50 Reporting Scotland (210647) 10.30 Sportscene - Match of the Day (1229192). BBC1 WALES As BBC1 except: 4.40 Final Score (9526376). 4.55 Wales on Saturday - the Results (8470802). 5.50 Wales on

lay - the Magazine (210647). ANGLIA 3.05 Film: Columbo - It's All in the Gam Peter Falk in yet another outing as the dishevelled detective, this time investigating the murder of a wealthy gambler. Prime suspect Faye Dunaway falls to lead him a merry chase. With Claudia Christian, Armando Pucci. (84923963), 5.05 Anglia News and Weather (5324173), 2.05 Box Office

America Special (9375809), 3.00 Baywatch Nights (4849087), 3.50 CD UK (8514425), 4.45 Soundtrax (34995406), 5.05 ITV Nightscreen (1109425). CENTRAL

(SENT HAL)

As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaurs
(87956), 1.05 Central News and Weather
(94954049), 1.40 Stash (79450840), 1.50
Early Edition (9377666), 2.40 Fath: Up
Periscope, Navy man James Garmer joins
a submarine in the Pacific, keeping an eye
on a Japanese-held Island, Clichéd heroics with Edmond O'Brien, (65880482).
5.05 Central News, Weather and Goels Extra (582473). 10.20 News; National Lottery Update; Weather (222821). 2.55 Jobfinder (4044680). **5.00** Spotlight Asia

HTV WALES As LWT except: 12.30 Movies, Games and Videos (87956): 1.05 HTV News (94954043): 1.40 Film: The Longest Day*, Manunoth all-star re-creation of the D-Day landings in Normandy. An ambitious effort with many memorable sequences and a blink-and-miss-them star cast, including John Wayne, Rod Steiger, Henry Fonda, Robert Mitchum and scores of others. The sheer sound and scores of others the secret by the se and fury of the piece wins out in the end,

and it remains an impressive anio ir remains an impleasare achievement. (24977550). 5.05 HTV Wales News and Sport (5824773). 10.20 News; Weather; Lottery Result (4480799). 2.05 Box Office America Special (9375609), 3.00 Baywatch Nights (4849067), 3.50 CD UK (8514425), 4.45 Soundtrax (34995406), **5.05** ITV Nightscreen (1109425).

HTV WEST As HTV Wales except: 1.40 The Bones Say - UB40 Live in the New South Africa (6783163). 2.50 Firm: The Count of Monte Cristo, Richard Chamberlain and a cast of other familiar faces swing from chandelers, leap from battlements and generally ham-it-up all over the place in an energetic but undistinguished version of the classic Alexandre Dumas tale. With of the casset Ageather British tale. With Tony Curis, Trevor Howard, Donald Peasanca. (52030579). 5.05 HTV West News and Sport (5824773). 10.20 News; Weekend Weather (4480799).

MERIDIAN As LWT except: 12.30 Dinosaus (87956). 1.05 Meridian News and Weather (94954043). 1.40 Alrwolf (1948314). 2.35 Film: The 300 Spartans. Bloody battles in ancient Greece. Noisy. With Richard Egan, Diane Baker, Barry

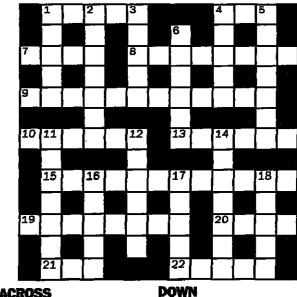
Coe, Raiph Richardson. (40932289). 5.05 Meridian News and Weather (5824173). 10.20 News; Weather (222821), 2.05 Box Office America Special (9375609). 3.00 Beywatch Nights (4849067). 3.50 CD UK (6514425). 4.45 Soundtrax (34995406), 5.05 ITV Nightscreen (m09425 WESTCOUNTRY

As LWT except: 12.30 Movies, Games and Videos (87956). 1.05 Westcountry News (94954043). 1.40 Portrait of Leonardo - the Kid Who Took Hollywood (1606937), 2.40 Film: The Golden Voyage of Sinbad. John Philip Law a rather stiff Sinbad in so-so panto boosted by Ray Harryhausen's animated monsters. With Caroline Murro, Douglas Wilms. Monsters. With Caroline Murro, Douglas Wilmer, Tom Baker. (65880482), 5.05 Westcountry News (5824173). 10.20 News; Westher (4480799), 2.05 Box Office America Special (9375609). 3.00 Baywetch Nights (4849067). 3.50 CD UK (851429). 4.45 Soundtrax (34995406). 5,05 ITV Nightscreen (1109425). YORKSHIRE As LWT encept: 12.30 Dhosaurs (87856), 1.05 Calender News and Weather (94954043), 5.05 Calendar News and Weather (5824173).

TYNE TEES As Yorkshire except: 1.05 North East News and Weather (94954043). 5.05 North East News (582473). S4C

As Channel 4 except: 6.00 Sesame Street (2139483). 12.30 Maxmania (38934482). 1.00 The Vibe (4736685). 1.30 Racing (68454260). 3.50 Pat and Mat (9690837). 4.00 Riverdance: a Journey (17465289). 5.05 Newyddion A Chwaraeon (36457050). 5.10 Y Cwb Darbl (5052690). 7.45 Newyddion a Rygbl (50526802). 7.45 Newyddion a Chwaraeon (53037666). 8.00 Mard Gras (44526078). 9.00 O Flaen Dy Lygaid (34621622). 10.00 Firm: Loch Ness. American scientist Ted Danson is despatched to Scotland to disprove the ossipance of the Loch Ness monster. With Josly Richardson. (77652111). 11.55 The Greatest Rory Ever Told (86895685). 12.00 Film: The Handmalds Tale. In a bleak and barren future world, fertile young women are used for breeding purposes. Natasha Richardson is understandably dismayed at the prospect (26451048). 3.45 St Eisewhere (94308425), 3.55 Hill Street Blues (34659999), 4.50 St Elsewhere (12731609), 5.45 Close.

CONCISE CROSSWORD



ACROSS

Shellfish (5) Sound of bee (3) Growing filament (4)

Anteater (8) Specialist food shop (12) 10 Person renting room (6) 13 Adorn with relief (6) 15 Kinship (12) 19 Cheeky (8)

20 Do as one is told (4) 21 Born (3) 22 Extent (5)

Make cloth on loom (5) Personal ornament (7) Arboreal marsupial (5) Accommodation for bees

Armed service (7)

Wind (6) Rowers (7) 12 Sooner (6)

14 Woodwind instrument (7) 16 Parasite (5) 17 Exterior (5)

18 Girl's name (5)

Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Calf, 4 Hones (Car phones), 9 Tabor, 10 Leopard, 11 Outright, 12 Epee, 13 Telegraph pole, 17 Hack, 18 Staccato, 21 Hundred, 22 Adios, 23 Candy, 24 Even. DOWN: 2 Abbot, 3 Farming, 4 Half-heartedly, 5 Neon, 6 Sharppoo, 7 Utmost, 8 Edge, 14 Laconic, 15 Hectare, 16 Egoism, 17 Ha-ha, 19 Ag-lia, 20 Citis.

JASPER REES

TELEVISION

REVIEW

surreal humour. In a reassuring way, this is still Shooting Stars. They're behind a desk, clouting each other with frying pans, and reliant on celebritles keen hey spent that time wisely naking Shooting Stars, a comage to game shows in the orm of a raspberry. Like, I uspect, many others, until then was immune to their brand of what we critics loftly call

where they don't know v to do accurate comedy, their thirst to be – the again – surreal, Paul

oel'a House Party. The bearded ankster/showman manipulates another idience (S) (T) (187869).

950

10.30 Match of the Day. Desmond Lynam, with Alan Harsen and Tievor Brooking, introduces highlights from the third round of the FA Cup. Commentary from John Motson, Barry Davies and Jon Champion (S) (T) (1229182).

7.45 The National Lottery Draw. Dale Winton's "special guests" are Uitra (S) (T) (865866).

8.05 Auntie's Unbellevable New Year Bloomers.
Embarrassing outtakes from EastEnders, As Time Gos
By, Ballykissangel and Can't Cook, Won't Cook are
among the only too believable bloomers (S) (914666).

8.35 IIII The Mask (Charles Russell 1994 US). Not as much fun as it should have been despite the state-of-the-art special effects, which are (in a couple of scenes, quite literally) eye-popping. Jim Carrey's relentlessly manic performance kind of helps. He's the nerdish bank clerk entangled with mobster's moll Cameron Diaz who's only giving him a flash of her cleavage because

vs; Weather (T) (333376).

EIIM Stege at Marlon (Charles Haid 1992 US).
Ed Begley Jr, Tess Harper and Dennis Franz make up a useful cast in this recreation of events after the bombing of a government building by a Mormon sect in Utah in 1988 (Followed by Weather) (S) (916319). To 2.55am.

BBC1

7.00 Children's BBC: Toonstics (S) (1072024), 7.35 News; Weather (4704598), 7.40 The incredible Hulk (R) (S) (T) (3273482), 8.05 Hero Turtles: The Next Mutation (S) (2730258), 8.30 The New Adventures of Superman (R) (S) (T) (2591227), 9.15 Live and Kicking (S) (50837531).

12.10 News; Weather (T) (6339463), 12.15 Grandstand (S) (6338734), 12.20 Football Focus (7740550), 1.16 Athletics -- The County Durham International Cross Country Races (829/6260), 1.40 Cricket -- the Ashes (85764840), 2.10 Racing from Newbury (10677869), 2.25 Aithetics -- The Country Durham International Cross Country Races (35569753), 2.35 Racing from Newbury (8925602), 2.55 World Daris (3084463), 3.10 Racing from Newbury (8357024), 3.25 World Daris (3449685), 3.50 Football Half-Times (9433734), 4.00 Athletics -- The County Durham International Cross Country Races (2694289), 4.40 Final Score (6300192),

5.40 News; Weather (T) (352734), **5.50** Regional News and Weather (210647).

8.55 Jim Davidson's Generation Game, Jim and Mels are joined by the American Footworks Dance Company, the City Ballet of London, Nigel Havers, Rick Wakeman, Kirsten O'Brien and John Virgo, Flash, or what? (S) (T) (152753).

this was on only the other week. In fact, it was on only the other week. In fact, it was on only the other week. In fact, it was on only the other week. In fact, it was on only the other week. Llam Neeson is the hideously disfigured scientist who avenges himself with the help of his own invention, a synthetic skin. Imaginative, beautifully designed, and better than Batman (S) (T) (804837).

12.20 World Darts (S) (1862932).

BBC2

ITV Carlton

7.05 IIIM The Kid (Charlle Chaplin 1921 US). The one where the little tramp discovers an abandoned nipper (Jackle Cougan, of course) (1560647).

11.20 Beautiful Things (R) (S) (9036444), 11.30 Wimbledon 1998 (S) (8858937). 8.00 Weekend 24 (S) (38463), 9.00 Q Asia (S) (38192), 9.30 17111/1 Lambe (Yash Chopra 1991 Ind). Bollywood tale of lovs and sacrifice, starring Anii Kapoor (37283956).

rackes over Walter Scott to memorable effect, with Robert Taylor in the title role and Elizabeth Taylor as the Jewess Rebecca (197208).

2.00 EITM The Three Musketeers (Richard Lester 1973). The entertaining Dick Lester version, with Oliver Reed, Raquel Welch, Richard Chemberlain, Michael York and Christopher Lee (T) (187192).

35 ELLY Columbo - It's All in the Game (Bill Macy 1993 US). Faye Dunaway is the guest villainess in this adventure for the dishevelled private investigator. She's the ex-lover of a murdered two-thing playboy and, of course, she did it. It's only a question of Peter Falk squirrelling it out of her (wouldn't it be nice if he was wrong with his hunches, just one time?) (S) (7789:1208).

1.30 Channel 4 Racing from Lingfield Park and Uttoxeter. Today's flat meeting at Lingfield Park, plus jump action from Uttoxeter. The Lingfield-featured races are the 140, 240, 240 and 3.10pm, while they are the 1.55 and 2.25pm at Uttoxeter (92322598).

SMTV Live (S) (56614550). **11.30** CD UK (S) (49840). **12.30** The Food Factory (87856). **1.00** ITN News; Weather (T) (84822444). **1.05** London Weskend Today (T) (84954043). **1.10** On the Ball (T) (82932208). **1.40** Cartoon (86076005).

T4: Madeline (R) (2399005). **7.25** T4: Animal Alphabet (5346604). **7.30** T4: The Megic School Bus (62208). **8.00** Transworld Sport (23531). **9.00** Morning Line (S) (40647). **10.00** Rugby World (5192). **11.00** Gazzetta Football Italia (T) (71956). **12.00** Board X (43024). **12.30** Maxmania (R) (8506395). **1.05** The Vibe (82943314).

3.45 Poppes (S) (8212869). **4.25** One Man and His Dog (S) (9833289). **4.65** Space 1999 (S) (T) (8492024). **5.45** Rex the Runt (S) (T) (359647).

Shoot to Thrill (7556550). **4.45** ITN News; Sports Results; Weather (T) (9634395). **5.05** London Weekend Tonight (T) (5824173).

3.45 Macbeth. A Channel 4 Schools production, giving the Scottish play a modern urban setting. Sean Pertwee is Macbeth, Greta Scacchi is Lady Macbeth, and they are supported by Philip Madoc (Duncan), Michael Maloney (Banquo) and Jack Davenport (Miles from This Life) is Malcolm (R) (234598).

8.55 World Darts. Ray Stubbs introduces live coverage of the 1999 World Professional Darts Championship.
Commentary by Bobby George and Tony Green (S)

8.40 TOTP 2. Lionel Richle, the Mavericks and Phil Collins are the easy-listening favourites retrieved from the archives (S) (794208).

7.55 What the Papers Say. The Guardian's Steve Bell reviews the newspaper cartoons of 1998 (S) (581227) 7.25 **BIDINA Irish Journeys.** Fergal Keane begins a three-part journey through the Republic of Ireland. See *Travelogue of the Day*, below (S) (991668).

8.05 ELDIKE Cuba Night: Elsenhower, Kennedy and Kruschev: How it All Began. See Theme the Day, below (613550).

iniond in the Rough. A look at the history of eball in Cuba, showing how American teams have ched countless Cuban players over the years and the two countries have allowed political rivalries to rate their national sport (998314).

10.00 Who Owns Che? - The Importance of Not Being Ernesto. Exploration of how Che Guevara's image has been exploited since his death, See Documentary of the Day, below (59685). 9.15 LBJ, Nixon, Brezhnev, Ford and Carter: Castro and Cuba – the Middle Years (573847); 9.25 The Simpsons. Homer swaps jobs with Fidel Castro, who goes to work at the nuclear power (S) (T) (688918). 9.50 Reagan, Gorbachev, Bush and Yeltsin: Castro and Cuba Survive the End of an Era (486043).

10.30 The Clinton Years: Cuba Today and Tomorrow. (744378).

10.35 11111 To Wong Foo, Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar (Beeban Kloron 1995 US). Comic road movie about three New York drag queens (Wesley Shipes and Patrick Swayze included, of all people) who 10.20 ITN News; Weather; Lottery Result (T) (222821). **131111** In the Line of Fire. The film (S) (T) (3738840).

IG!0103 Allens (James Cameron 1986 US). The bug is back. See Film of the Day, below (S) (T) (90792579).

invasion Hollywood. A look at how Hollywood deals with portraying extraterrestrials (9356574).

Beywatch Nights (R) (S) (4848338), **3.55** CD UK (S) (1008966), **4.46** ITV Nightscreen (5822883), **5.30** ITN Morning News (33852), To 6am.

08 4 Later: Tottenham 2 (5348864), 12.36 4 Leter: Mod Squad (5384154), 1.08 4 Later: Angry Kid (4241390), 1.10 4 Later: Doce Strange – Physical Graffiu (8371135), 1.55 4 Later: Mod Squad (6400488), 2.25 4 Later: Erotic Tales (R) (5311609), 2.55 Hill Street Bluss (R) (9840135), 3.45 St Eisewhere (R) (1075681), 4.35 Future Quest (R) (S) (68013222), To 5.05am,

1.08 Illim Fires Within (Gillian Armstrong 1991 US),
Cuba Night ends on a low note with this disappointing
tale of Cubar exiles in America, Jimmy Smits and Greta
Scacchi star (Then Weatherview) (9403425). To 2.30am.

CUBA NIGHT (8.05pm BBC2 right) Forty years on from Fidel Castro's successful revolution in Cuba, BBC2 celebrates the country's achievements with an evening of programmes.

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THEME OF THE DAY

lonight at 8.00pm.

ARENA

ARENA PEOPLE:

IN WAYNE.

fonight at 10.00pm.

BROO

MOVIE

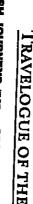
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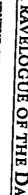
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TRAVELOG

travels across the Republic of Saturdays, but he begins in K lesson: revisiting his own fam with the Republican cause (K weapons during the war of incard a Black and Tan once ever Catholic clergy took over the cards.





om BBC2 nght) Fergal Keane ic of Ireland over the next three in Kerry with a necessary history family roots, which are entwined a (Keane's grandmother smuggled if independence against the Brits even threatened to shoot her). The the dominant role of the English Keane illustrates how the priests by postwar economic development

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UE OF THE DAY

FILM OF THE DAY

ALIENS (11.35pm ITV, right) James Cameron replaced Ridley Scott in the director's chair for the 1986 sequel to Alien – and it shows. This is far more mechanical than the first film – an overblown combat movie in many respects. Instead of the imaginative use of character and suspense of Scott's 1979 original, Cameron simply sends in the US marines – a tooled-up platoon which tries to zap the megasized prawns (which, meanwhile, keep leaping out of the airconditioning at boringly regular intervals). Thank goodness for Sigourney Weaver, whose natural presence provides an



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THE WEEKEND REVIEW
The Independent 2 January 1999

Channel

(A) (S) (7006395), 7.00 5 News and Sport (S) (9361956), 7.30 Millishakal (S) (8853519), 7.35 Wimzie's House (R) (S) (9092869), 8.00 Lassie (S) (1425261), 8.30 Wishbone (S) (1424531), 9.00 Land of the Lost (R) (1448111), 9.30 The Incredible Hulk (1212208), 10.30 Loggerheads (R) (5) (144398), 11.00 The Best of Pepsi (R) (S) (T) (4943918), 11.30 Singled Out (R) (S) (4944647), 12.00 Love Me for (52558260), 1.15 RAD Special: Seismic Cycle (5089573), 1.45 News (S) (T) (30005578), 1.50 Football on 5 (82084647), 3.00 Blast (S) (6633482).

Sunset Beach Omnibus, Meg discovers that Ben and Maria are still married. She probably tried reading their itos. — the only way, regular viewers will tell you, of telling what is going on around here. The facial expressions could mean anything (R) (S) (49569043).

6.55 6 News and Sport (5) (T) (4:97314).
6.00 Hercules - the Legendary Journ stumbles on an underground commune ruled by the chartematic Kernarcs, who subjects by a mixture of hypnosis and (

8 News and Sport (S) (T) (5598463)

احكذا من الاعل

9.00

TELEVISION GUIDE BY GERARD GILBERT